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THE OREDIGGER

Volume 87, Issue 6

November 15, 2006

THE VOICE OF THE COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES, A SUPERIOR EDUCATION IN APPLIED SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

World News in Brief

In an interview published Saturday, Sir Elton John criticized organized religion for fueling anti-gay discrimination. "I think religion has always tried to turn hatred toward gay people," said John.

A man was arrested for sending over a dozen letters containing a non hazardous white powder to Representative Nancy Pelosi, Jon Stewart, David Letterman and others.

Afghani insurgents are now attacking over 600 times per month, compared to 130 times per month in 2005.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair asked Syria and Iran to support efforts to stop violence in Iraq.

Police dissipated a riot in the capitol of Bangladesh on Monday by firing rubber bullets and tear gas into the crowd.

Sophomoric Dinner

Who: CSM
Sophomores
What: An evening of free food and live music
When: November 16, 2006, from 5:30 to 8:00 pm
Where: Friedhoff Hall (Green Center basement)

Field of Dreams

By Katie Kocman
Staff Reporter

More improvements on campus are being made. Alumni from Houston, Texas, all of whom previously played for Coach Jimmy Darden, have donated money to make improvements to Colorado School of Mines' baseball field.

Thanks to Rob McKee '68, Steve Chesebro '64 and Bob Irelan '68, the baseball team will have a completely renovated facility.

The project started when Darden's wife, Genny, donated money for a new press box. Now, the total amount of donations is over \$750,000. The field has already been equipped with new sprinklers and new foul poles. A new fence, backstop, scoreboard, retaining wall and a concrete skirt to connect the dugouts will also be added to the field.

The stands will remain the same. However, loose slabs will have to be reset with concrete. In addition, lights

will be placed on the field. This will require a new high voltage line. The lights and "M-blem" will be plugged into this line.

Last year, new dugouts were installed by Gavin Custodio, Michael Deal, Matt Thome, Cory Quakenbush, and John Naccarato. These men are all members of the baseball team. The construction was for an EPICS design project.

A new batting cage was built in 2002 after snowfall caused the cage to be unusable. Houston alumni saw these improvements and decided the field needed to be completely renovated.

"With the exception of the lights, the field improvements are set to be done by the first home game of spring 2007," said Charles O'Dell, a member of the athletic staff. Construction is a quarter of the way done at present.

After the field is completed, it will be named after Jimmy Darden as a tribute to the man who coached for 38 years.



Chase Hoffman/Oredigger



Chase Hoffman/Oredigger

The baseball fields at the Colorado School of Mines, nestled at the northwest end of campus have been in need of repair. Now with help from several Mines alumni and the wife of former coach Jimmy Darden, renovations are being made.

Donkeys On Top As Dems Roll

By Andrew Aschenbrenner
Staff Reporter

Colorado Democrats established majorities in both the State Senate and the State House last Tuesday. On January 1, 2007, they take control of both chambers of the state legislature

and the governorship for the first time since 1958.

In the races concerning Golden, Gwyn Green kept her 23rd district seat in the State House and Maryanne Keller won reelection to the 20th State Senate district. Ed Perlmutter won the 7th district election to serve in the

U.S. House.

The theme in Colorado followed results around the nation, with Democrats gaining seats at nearly every level. An estimated 83 million Americans voted in this election, lifting Democrats to a position of majority power. Democratic candidates won six

U.S. Senate seats and at least twenty-eight U.S. House seats to take control of the 109th Congress. Democrats did not lose a single Congressional seat.

Democrats also picked up six governorships from the Republicans,

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Colorado Election Results

Amendment 42 – Minimum Wage

53% Yes

47% No

Amendment 43 – Marriage

56% Yes

44% No

Referendum I – Domestic Partnerships

53% No

47% Yes

4th District of Colorado

46% Musgrave

43% Paccione

7th District of Colorado

55% Perlmutter

42% O'Donnell

Colorado Governor

56% Ritter

41% Beauprez

By Jason Harms
Staff Reporter

A reinvention in typing has been invented. Dr. Carsten Mehring, professor at CSM, recently invented a new "hands-on" mechanism that enables users to touch-type while walking.

Dr. Mehring has designed a device that simulates the actions of a keyboard by touching the thumb and one of the fingers. This gadget, called KITTY TECH (Keyboard Independent Touch-TYPing TECHnology), works with existing technology by closing an electric circuit between the thumb and one of the fingers, generating a signal. This signal is interpreted as the desired letter of the finger-thumb combination.

Dr. Mehring constructed his first prototype in 2000. It took him a couple of weeks to complete the task using

components from eight keyboards.

Since then, several variations of his invention have been produced. One of these variations is a glove and plastic skeletal design that fits over the fingertips.

KITTY TECH is not a thousand-dollar item. The cost to produce this technology is \$40. It is also easy to learn how to use this new device. Dr. Mehring believes that anyone who can traditionally type can learn his new touch-typing device with ease.

Dr. Mehring's latest prototype is an iPod remote control. It allows a music listener to wear a one-handed glove and change songs while in motion, whether they are riding a bike, driving, or running.

KITTY TECH expands on many of existing technology's limitations. For example, a restriction on speech-

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Election National Election Results 2006

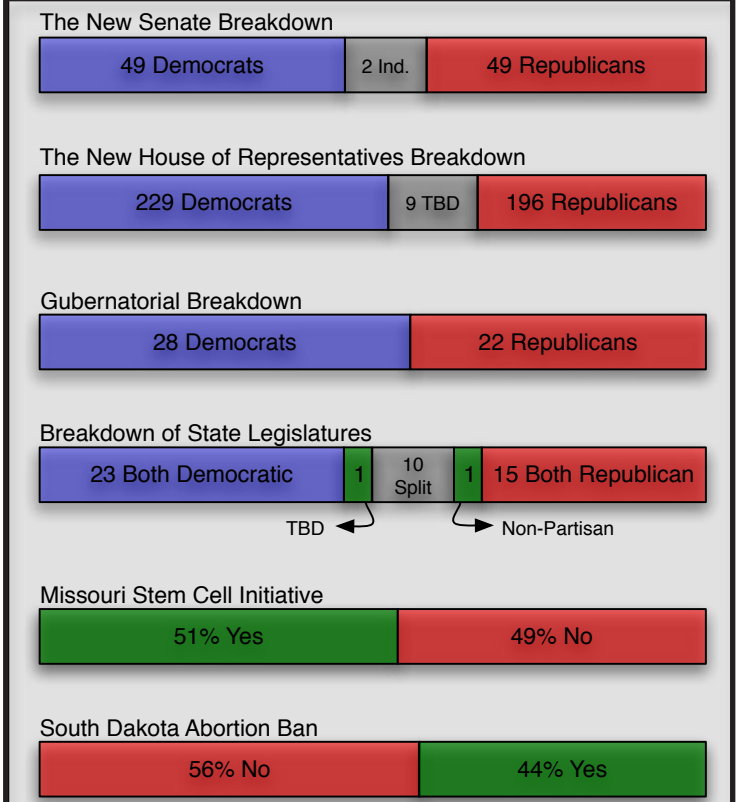
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governorships from the Republicans, including Colorado, where Bill Ritter defeated Bob Beauprez by a 15 percent margin.

Several states voted on ballot issues that received national attention. Proposed measures included minimum wage increases and amendments to ban state recognition of same-sex marriage.

Amendments defining marriage as between one man and one woman passed in seven out of eight states, including Colorado. Arizona became the only state in history where voters defeated such a proposition. Minimum wage increases passed in all six states where they were on the ballot.

Additionally, an initiative sanctioning stem cell research passed in Missouri and an abortion ban failed in South Dakota.



SSS At SenSys

By Chris Phillips
Asst. Business Manager

A "Speak & Shake," a "goofy video," and a "bright orange poster" were recently combined with the necessary technical information to win the prize for "Best Student Demonstration" at the SenSys 2006 conference.

Marianne Graham, a junior in Computer Science, Wade Simmons, a senior in Computer Science, and Michael Colagrosso, their advisor and assistant professor for the Math & Computer Science Department, presented their abstract, "Simple Sensor Syndication" (SSS), at the conference held in Boulder Oct. 31 to Nov. 3.

Hosted by the Association for Computing Machinery, SenSys is ACM's annual "Conference for Embedded Networked Sensor Systems," according to the SenSys website.

Graham and Simmons said winning the award was a major accomplishment. Graham added, "Presenting our research at the conference was more prestigious than being published... Afterwards, people offered us jobs and several asked for permission to cite our abstract."

"Simple Sensor Syndication," they explained, "is a play off of RSS, or Really Simple Syndication, which our system uses to publish its data."

RSS is a method that allows servers to publish changes to computers that are tied into the RSS Feed when certain events occur. This method is already in use by some internet browsers to update the titles of bookmarked pages that have embedded RSS.

SSS, according to Graham and Simmons, utilizes RSS to track data and publish it appropriately. The process, they explained, is to first program various sensor boards, known as "motes," with the appropriate sensors that are located either on the mote itself or on separate boards. The mote communicates via radio waves with the sensors and with the base station, or server, whenever certain criteria are met.

The criteria can be change in a reading, going above or below a threshold, etc.

When the server receives data, it further interprets, sorts, and publishes the data using RSS. The reason for doing the research and publishing it using RSS was to prove the concept. "We were just showing that it [using RSS in this manner] was possible," said Graham and Simmons.

The research began last semester. They then formed a team for Field Session and continued the research. The team won the best overall demonstration at the end of Field Session, and went on to present that same research at SenSys.

For the presentation, they used several types of sensors along with a flash movie in order to demonstrate multiple potential applications for their research. They had several motes with accelerometers and microphones that would react to shaking and speaking through an event being published at a local computer via RSS.

The poster, they explained, had a hidden motion detector and a screen that told people they had won a door prize when they got close enough to the sensor. The door prizes consisted of note pads, pens, and other stationery that had a web address for people to log onto later to get more information on SSS.

The flash movie depicted a burglar in black running through a house and stealing several items – a laptop, TV and toilet just to name a few. This movie was projected onto a wall that had several motes with light sensors. These motes were programmed to send an appropriate message when the burglar ran over them, such as "Burglar in the Bathroom."

There is still potential for more research. Although Graham and Simmons are not planning on doing any more in the near future, Graham said, "People were suggesting that we figure out how to accommodate server requests. Many people are interested in our research and in continuing it."

The Fingers Do The Tapping

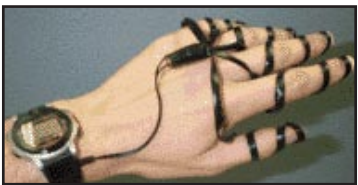
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activated typing systems is privacy. Anywhere in public where someone wants to get their thoughts onto paper, and the content of their message is private, personal, or inappropriate for certain ears, they cannot use speech activated typing systems.

If a person is driving, jogging, or biking and wishes to write a pertinent thought on a notepad, they must stop, get out pen and paper, write it down, and continue. If they want to later convert the notes into a text document, they have to retype the notes on a word processor. Dr. Mehring has addressed these limitations with

KITTY TECH.

Dr. Mehring wishes to see his new technology appear in the next Spider-man movie, giving the main character more mobility.



Courtesy www.kittytech.com

Program Grows

By Lily Giddings
Staff Reporter

Tradition continued as the McBride class of 2010 was inducted last week. After a competitive application process, which included essays and interviews, the new freshman class entered the Honors Program in Public Affairs. All members were invited to a reception last Wednesday.

The ceremony began at 5 pm in Friedhoff Hall with refreshments and socializing. Incoming freshmen met with mentors from the program, upperclassmen, and each other before being formally inducted into the program.

After socializing for about an hour, guests were ushered to their seats to begin the program. The chair of the McBride Tutorial Committee, Dr. Tony Dean, served as Master of Ceremonies and began the night with some comments about the McBride program.

President Dr. Bill Scoggins introduced the founder of the McBride program, Guy T. McBride, and continued with remarks about the aims of the program.

The keynote speaker for the night was Dr. Dean Thomas, a McBride graduate from the first year of the program. Dr. Thomas spoke of the long-term benefits of participating in the honors program, taking examples from his own experience as

an engineer.

After the speakers were finished, Dr. Wendy Harrison was presented with the Ange Melaragno Service Award for her contributions to the program over the past year. The award and accompanying plaque were presented to Dr. Harrison by Jason Fish and Paul Johnson, student representatives from the junior McBride class. Dr. Harrison said of the award, "they didn't need to pick me. I just did what needed to be done."

Then members of the senior class took the stage for the "final part of the application process." According to tradition, the seniors and freshmen participate in a small competition, hosted by the seniors. In a pseudo-jeopardy format, students from both classes were quizzed on McBride mentors, typical class discussion questions, and the Brazilian dancing martial art, Capoeira.

Finally, the incoming freshmen introduced themselves to all attendees. Students were called up in pairs and instructed to give their name, hometown, intended major, and career goals.

Following the main program, several upperclassmen shared their experiences of the program and its different aspects, especially last summer's Foreign Area Study trip to Brazil, and the Washington, D.C. policy trip. The night served as a welcome to the freshman, and an introduction to the Honors Program.



Courtesy Dana Drake
McBride Interim Principal Tutor, Dr. Loring Abeyta, at the Freshman Reception.

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Astronomy Club

Ever watch the sky? Come join the Astronomy Club and learn basic astronomy! Our meetings are Thursday at 7:00 pm. Contact Mark Gefreh at mgefreh@mines.edu

CMI

Campus Ministry International. Dealing with life's tough questions. Sexuality, Relationship, Ethics, Spirituality and more. Monday nights, 7:30 p.m. SC-C. For info cmi.csm@gmail.com or (303)499-9965

CRU

Campus Crusade for Christ. Thurs. @ 8 in SC-D. Everyone welcome, join for worship @ 7 before meetings.

Circle K

Circle K is a volunteer org. helping people. Got tons of projects, just need you! Contact jrisner@mines.edu.

Dance Team

Interested in dancing? Offers both beginning and advanced classes in: jazz, lyrical, hip hop, and tap. Times & directions, for info contact hbrown@mines.edu.

FCA

Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Wed. meets at 7:30 Student Center Ballrooms D&E. All welcome. jwells@mines.edu.

French Club

A social club where Francophones have an opportunity to speak to each other, celebrate French events, promote French culture on campus. If you are interested, please send an email to kgengenb@mines.edu.

ISEE

International Society of Explosives Engineers. Contact jgresham@mines.edu. 6pm, 3rd monday of each month, exact date and location TBA (email for details). We have monthly meetings with speakers from many different industries. All students are welcome to attend meetings, www.mines.edu/academics/mining/csm_isee

Juggling Club

Meets Thursdays at 5:30pm on the Kafadar commons. The CSM Juggling Club is dedicated to advancing the juggling skills of all its members. We teach our members everything from a simple three ball cascade to club passing, and then encourage them to learn upwards of nine balls. If you're interested, show up to a meeting, or contact Michael at mdunlap@mines.edu

Karate Club

Meets every Monday and Wednesday Night, from 6:30 to 7:00 pm in

the gym wrestling room. All levels of experience, from beginner to advanced, are welcome! For more information, contact Jason Dardano at ddardano@mines.edu.

Kendo Club

Where: Field House

When: Wednesday, January 25, 2005 8:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.

Anyone who is interested should attend; we will provide all the information necessary. Practice is open to all skill levels, no experience necessary. A great opportunity to exercise, improve coordination, and have fun.

MSEC

Materials Science and Engineering Club meets Friday in HH 202 at noon. Lunch is provided for members, and guest lecturers will be speaking. All majors invited to join. jeperkin@mines.edu.

Newman Group

Catholic Newman Group. Meets every Monday at 7pm in the Ted Adams Room of the Green Center for faith based discussion and community. ccooper@mines.edu for more info.

ORC

Outdoor Rec. Center. Recreation, equipment and lessons. Visit ORC next to C3 store in Mines Park. Hours: Mon. Wed. and Fri. from 10-6, Tues. and Thurs. from 12-6. 303-273-3184

PHATES

Peers Helping Aid in Tough Everyday Situations. "We are listening..." Dedicated to listening to your problems. Mel Kirk, Student Development Center 303-273-3377.

PreMed Society

We meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of every month at 5 pm in HH211. Contact wsvoboda@mines.edu.

SCA

Students for Creative Anachronism. Fencing meets Thurs. 7-9 in the Field House. Belly & court dance Tues. 7-9 in SC. dhoberec@mines.edu.

Sigma Lambda

1st and 3rd Tuesdays of Every Month in Library Boethcher Room. EVERYONE WELCOME: gay, bisexual, transgendered & allies. sigmalambda@mines.edu.

Sober Drivers

Need a ride home on Fri. or Sat. night between 9 pm & 3 am? Kappa Sigma Sober Driver Program 303-279-9951. Must be within 15 min. of campus.

SEB

Society of Economics and Business. Meetings are held bi-weekly in EH 211 with guest speakers from the working world. The speakers talk about their experience and give insight into the real world of business. Food and drinks are provided at the meetings. Questions? Contact Sarah Casias at scasias@mines.edu.

SWE

Society of Women Engineers. Hear from speakers in industry, universities etc. on topics affecting women & students at Mines. Weds. 12 CO 209 jnekuda@mines.edu.

Club Tennis

New members welcome for info, email Megan at mshibao@mines.edu.

Women's Ultimate

Come out and join the Women's Club Ultimate Team. This team was founded in 2005-2006 and is looking for women who want to both have fun and learn about ultimate. No prior skill required. For more information and practice times/locations contact Terra Williamson at tewillia@mines.edu or Jennifer Nekuda at jnekuda@mines.edu.

Ski Team

Looking to continue racing in a relaxed fun environment or just an excuse to go skiing more? Join Ski Team! Email croe@mines.edu for info.

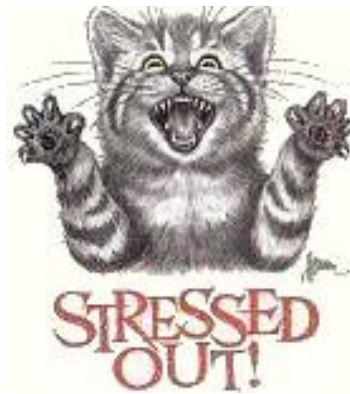
ESSC

Earthworks and the Student Sustainability Council promote environmental awareness and sustainability at CSM. Joint meetings at noon in CO

Emergency Resources

All Life-Threatening Emergencies: 911
Public Safety
 Public safety concerns, suspicious incidents, crimes & emergencies 1812 Illinois Street (NW corner of Illinois & 19th) 303-273-3333 24/7
Student Health Center
 Routine medical and dental issues 1225 17th Street (SE corner of Elm and 17th) 303-273-3381 8 am -12 pm & 1 pm - 4:45 pm M-F
Student Development Services
 Personal, academic, career, and crisis counseling. Student Center, Suite 8 (behind the Cashier) 303-273-3377 M-F 8-5
Jefferson Center for Mental Health
 303-425-0300 24/7
National Suicide Hotline
 Suicide and crisis intervention hotline 1-800-SUICIDE (1-800-784-2433) 24/7

ASK THE OREDIGGER



Analytical Solutions to "Real World" Problems

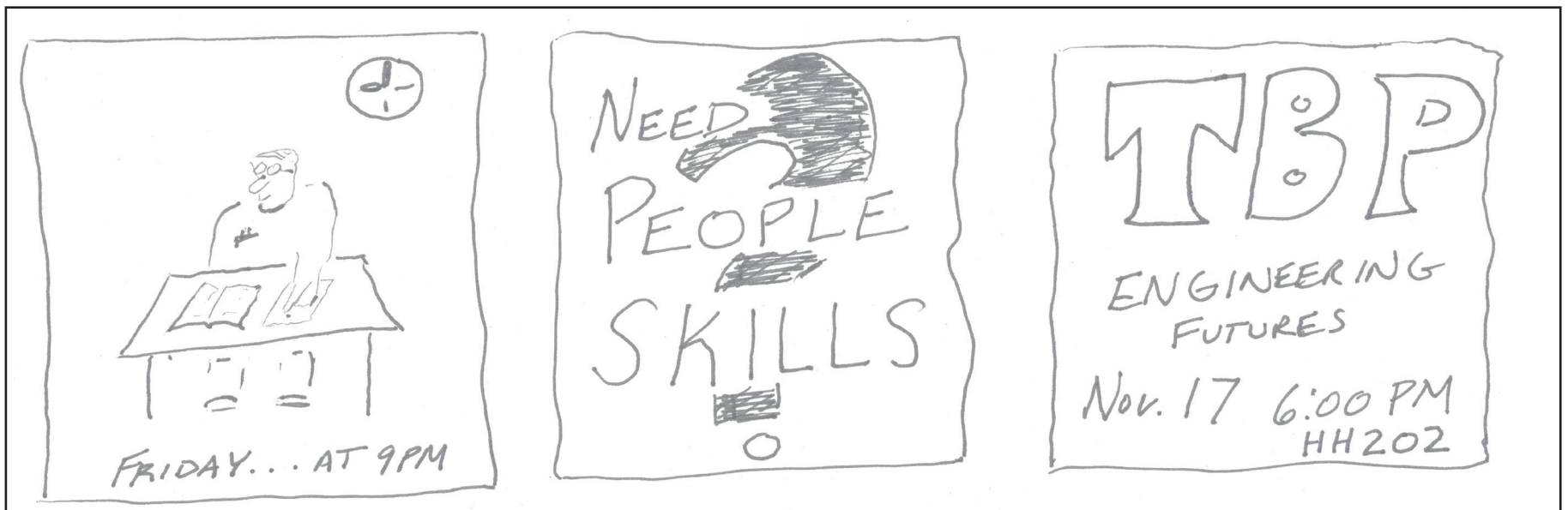
Q.

I am scared of myself. I seem not able to relate fully with anything, but I'm able to relate in some way to everything. I am most scared of how people would react if they knew what went on inside my head, so I feel like I'm on my own to sort myself out. What can I do to gain some mental stability?

- Losing it in Lakewood

A.

You are not alone. Period. It is not easy to have stability in this world. My main advice to you is to first overcome your fears. You will never truly achieve stability until you become comfortable within yourself. Start with evaluating who you are as a person, and be careful to avoid passing judgment on yourself. The general world view should not have an effect on who you are. Next, focus on what you can gain from relating and not on what you lose from failing to relate fully. Life is about what you can offer to the world and what the world can offer to you. Diving in can be scary, and you may not like what you see, but you will be much happier once you are off the high dive and in the pool.



Get Ready for the Shake Up

By Julianna Sipeki
Business Manager

Over the past five years, the Associated Students of the Colorado School of Mines have proposed a redistricting plan for the organization on three occasions. Will it succeed this time?

ASCSM President Casey Morse believes it will. "Nobody has tried it this way," he said at last Sunday night's redistricting meeting.

Morse outlined what he believes to be the three "silos" of CSM: the Golden community, student life, and academic affairs. Currently, ASCSM is a division of student life with only two officers, Lindsay Rothfelder and Justin Chichester, serving Golden and academic affairs. Morse would like to see ASCSM expanded so it involves all three silos equally.

Morse said, "If we had a person on all these faculty senate committees, then we would have bigger issues to debate in ASCSM. Essentially, we're trying to set up a new system that allows us to branch out to those other silos."

A final structure has not yet been agreed upon, but the redistricting committee does have a rough idea of what the new organization would

look like.

First, there would be a senate. This body would include members who were elected to serve at ASCSM (such as class officers). Morse believes that this branch would act primarily as "a discussion and information forum." The senate would include 22 fixed seats that are currently established in ASCSM.

Second, there would be a club council. This body would include members who were appointed to ASCSM as delegates from another organization, such as Blue Key.

Third, there would be an executive council. The primary purpose of this council would be to oversee the operations of the other two sections. In the case that an issue required the full attention of ASCSM, all three bodies would meet as one. Morse noted that ASCSM would meet as a full body twice a year to encourage relations between the different branches.

The meeting style would be very different from what currently exists. "The meetings of each silo will be streamlined with information that is pertinent only to that specific meeting. Therefore, meetings will be faster and more pertinent to the voting members present," said

Morse.

Some opponents of the redistricting plan argue that it would take voting power away from individual clubs and student organizations. Adam McCormick, a member of the ASCSM redistricting committee, said "It gives all of the clubs more power over club business."

The redistricting of ASCSM falls alongside a plan by President Scoggins to reorganize Mines. Scoggins has assembled a 12 member committee to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the current university organizational structure. The committee will report back to Scoggins with improvement options.

CASTLE OF CANS

Friday Nov. 17

7am-2pm

Bring donations to the Student Center



A magpie takes advantage of the later sunrises as the Winter Solstice approaches.

Picture of the Week

Chase Hoffman/Oredigger

Taking Names

Geek of the Week Interview

By Katie Kocman
Staff Reporter

Name: Ben Keiser
Major: Chemical Engineering
Year: Senior
Hometown: Denver, Colorado

What are your post-college plans?

[Laughs] Graduate.

You are notorious for remembering people's names, how do you do it?

Teaching martial arts has helped

What's your best geek joke?

Chuck Norris can decrease the entropy of the Universe. (He came up with that himself.)

What's the geekiest thing you've ever done?

I calculated pi at the Promenade in Westminster, and then just my life on a day to day basis. I'm also trying to do fluids homework right in the middle of this interview.

Do you own anything that is extraordinarily geeky?

Man, I feel lame. I have Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and wrestling action figures.

What's the geekiest thing you've seen at Mines?

White socks with black pants, that's what my sophomore roommate wore. But if there is anything geeky, I think that it's cool.

What are your thoughts on the ratio?

To all the ladies out there, even though there aren't many of you, I think you're all pretty.

What's the coolest 'thing' in science?

Blowing things up and big long equations on the chalk board.

What's your favorite math 'thing'?

I've got a lot of favorite math things. I'd have to say everything except for sequences and series.



Courtesy Ben Keiser

Don't mess with Ben Keiser! He teaches martial arts and makes a mean bowl of chili.

a lot. Also, God made me a really crazy, outgoing person and gave me a good memory. Sorry to those of you I don't know, I've been slacking because school has finally caught up with me.

If you could be a type of food what would you be?

I would be the chili that I make because it's the bomb-diggety.

Do you consider yourself a geek?

Heck yes, but geeks are the coolest people in the world. I enjoy being a geek because we can have our own inside jokes. I am the geeky cool guy!

Please send Geek of the Week suggestions to oredig@mines.edu

With Full Honors

Order of Omega is active on the campus

By Hilary Brown
Features Editor

An exclusive society hides behind all of the fraternities and sororities. It organizes Castle of Cans and Greek Week. One of eight honor societies on campus, Order of Omega is a Greek-only organization to recognize achievement within the Greek community.

Greek students with junior or senior status and GPAs higher than the all-Greek average are invited to apply. Members vote on the applicants. Applicants are evaluated based on academic merit, character, community service, and leadership.

Only 15 applicants are accepted each year, due to national rules. "We look at who would help our organization and the school the most," said Cole Rickers, president of the CSM chapter of Order of Omega.

There is an initiation and "it is a closed ceremony," said Rickers. Members receive pins for the organization and wear special tassels at graduation. They are also recognized in the graduation program.

The national organization gives out scholarships, chapter awards, and suggests school activities. The CSM chapter encourages its member to apply for scholarships and Sarah Felling, a CSM chapter member, won a scholarship last year.

"This organization is very prestigious because they can only allow 15 people in, and that's by national requirements," said Jennifer Doane, faculty advisor of the CSM chapter.

Membership in Order of Omega typically ranges from 15-35 members.

Right now, there are 20 men and 14 women in the organization. All of the Greek houses are represented, except Alpha Tau Omega, a fraternity. This year's new members, nine women and six men, hail from seven different houses.

Order of Omega has organized CSM's Castle of Cans for many years. Although Castle of Cans is longtime event, last year it was opened to the entire campus for the first time. "We could get a lot more cans if we had more people involved," said Rickers.

As a result, almost 9000lbs of food were collected during Castle of Cans. The first 1000lbs of food were donated to needy CSM members and the remaining 8000lbs were given to the Food Bank of the Rockies.

Order of Omega hopes to collect 15,000lbs during Castle of Cans this year. Students typically form teams to collect food and compete against one another. General donations of canned goods will be accepted. Items in high-demand are peanut butter, baby food, canned fruit, and cereals.

Between 7am and 2pm on Nov. 17, CAN-struction will take place on Kafadar Commons. By participating in CAN-struction, teams can boost their points by building complicated structures out of the cans. Last year's overall winner was Beta Theta Pi fraternity. The McBride Sophomores took second place. Castle of Cans won the Event of the Year Award, given out by ASCSM.

Another event that Order of Omega organizes is Greek Week. During Greek Week, the houses compete in IM field events and a derby car race,

among other things. Points are given to houses based on performance.

"Last year we did a bunch of awards, Chapter of the Year, IM Champs of the Year, Philanthropy Event of the Year, etc," said Rickers.

Order of Omega's Faculty Appreciation luncheon also happens during Greek Week. All faculty members are invited to the event and four are honored with plaques for excellence. Rickers hopes to improve the event by opening up voting to the all students.

"I like that they do a faculty appreciation luncheon. I would like to be a part of helping plan that because there are some teachers on our faculty that go above and beyond. To honor them and set them apart is really amazing," said Darcy Souta, a new member.

Order of Omega was established at the University of Miami in 1957 to recognize outstanding fraternity men. In 1977, it became co-ed. Its goals are to foster an atmosphere of open discussion across Greek lines, to unite the faculty, alumni, and student members, and to encourage others to maintain a high level of achievement.

"More than anything, Order of Omega gives me a spirit of a Greek community and not just houses competing against each other, and we compete with a lot of things - sports, grades. We all have different words and rituals to describe [what it is to be Greek], but it's all the same thing and Order of Omega reinforced that for me. Also, it's a way to help the school with philanthropy," said Rickers.

Interested in Castle of Cans? Contact Cole Rickers at jrickers@mines.edu

All the BELS and Whistles

By Hilary Brown
Features Editor

Look around. See the trees, the grass, the birds? The microbes cannot be seen, nor can the genetic structures, but they exist. CSM offers the opportunity to learn about the finer points of existence through the Bioengineering and Life Science Department (BELS).

The BELS program was officially added to the academic options in 2003, after several years of planning. Approximately ten courses are offered each semester. Courses cover a wide range of topics from Introductory Biology to Biomathematics to Physiology.

A committee is developing a formal report of the BELS program. This report will consist of recommendations for the program, i.e. whether it should be expanded to a major. Dr. Scoggins, CSM President, suggested the report. “Dr. Scoggins is apparently very supportive of the BELS program,” said Dr. Joel Bach, Associate Director of BELS.

The introductory course to biomedical engineering typically has 40 students enrolled. Other courses have between 20 and 30 students. Biology and genetics classes are usually at peak enrollment.

The BELS program is flexible with which classes are offered and the issue is adding new faculty. Most of the professors who teach BELS classes are spread across campus. Professors hail from Environmental Science and Engineering, Engineer-

ing, Metallurgy and Materials, Math and Computer Science, among others.

Some students take BELS classes because they see the profound impact that biology is making on science and engineering. Others take them because they enjoy the course structure. “It forces you to think differently than engineering classes, you get to learn a different way” said Emily Przekwas, a junior.

“The future will bring more biological issues like stem cell research into the arena of political debate and public policy. It is important for any citizen to understand the scientific basis of these questions” said Dr. Phil Ross, BELS Program Director.

The program decides which classes to add based on student interest.

Last year, many students wanted to see a prosthetics class and now Prosthetic Implant Engineering is offered. “The best way to decide which classes to add is to ask students what they want to learn” said Dr. Bach.

Students can follow a variety of paths through the BELS course sequence. Some students choose to minor in BELS and others choose to attend graduate school, medical schools, or veterinary schools. “Our students are in demand. We have students who get jobs as bioengineers with just the minor. They are very marketable, even without graduate school” said Dr. Bach.

BELS enables students to work in a variety of fields. “Mines could play a huge role in [biology]...I feel like I’m standing on the tip of the iceberg and I’d like to see more come out of the water. Mines has the ability to make a huge impact” said Dr. John Spear, BELS Associate Director.

“I’ve heard from other people that BELS is the fastest growing department on campus. At Preview and Discover sessions, I have students and parents coming up to me to tell me that BELS is why they are now considering Mines” said Dr. Bach.

Most pre-medical students continue with medical school at the



Courtesy John Spear

John Spear samples microbial mats from an active 80 °C hotspring in Yellowstone National Park, WY.

CU Health Science Center. “The UCHSC admissions office says that CSM graduates are the single most successful group, both in terms of admission rate and in terms of progress once admitted” said Dr. Ross.

Barbara Porter, Administrator for the Mayo Medical School, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Rochester, MN had the opportunity to interact with a CSM graduate accepted to the Mayo Medical School. Based solely on her experience with the student, she would offer that “although their curriculum is focused in engineering disciplines, CSM applicants bring a commitment to academic excellence that is balanced by an outstanding array of personal experiences that demonstrate a desire to serving their communities while enriching their own lives.”

Their engineering backgrounds help students to succeed in medical school. Dr. Bach estimates that the medical school placement rate is close to 100%. “Medicine is becoming more and more about technology and problem-solving. What do we do

here? We teach students how to solve problems” said Dr. Bach.

“As a Chem-E in pre-med, I like the analytical problem solving skills I’m getting. I like the fact that I’m getting a wider background than required to get into med school. I have a great backup plan having a degree from CSM,” said Paul Scott, a junior pursuing medical school.

Biology unites many different departments on campus. “It brings this campus closer together through biology and bioengineering” said Dr. Spear. He cited examples such as wastewater treatment, subsurface microbes in petroleum wells, rock formation and weathering, engineering antibiotics, and biomaterials.

A challenge faced by the BELS program is that there are no biology lab facilities on campus. “The BELS program has served CSM well over its first six years, but it must move to the next level. That will require CSM to allocate resources (space, equipment, faculty positions). For example, students have to take their Biology I and Biology II labs at

Red Rocks Community College, because we don’t have the resources here. This is not an ideal situation, and I hope to change it” said Dr. Ross.

Dr. Spear encourages students to take biology classes. “There are enough engineers on campus who understand ones and zeros, and DNA has its own electronic code, just with four bases instead of two. Everybody who leaves here should have a good understanding of how their body works,” he said.

“The future will bring more biological issues like stem cell research into the arena of political debate and public policy. It is important for any citizen to understand the scientific basis of these questions” said Dr. Ross.

Dr. Spear encourages students to contact him with their thoughts on the BELS program. His email is jspear@mines.edu. The advice he gives to students is to “enjoy life, be glad you’re alive, and try to understand it.”

Learning Leadership

By Jason Fish
News Editor

Calling all aspiring leaders! Brush up on skills and experience this spring.

A recent addition to the Mines course catalog, “Special Studies in Leadership and Small Group Dynamics” is being offered and taught by Jenifer Doane, Assistant Director of Student Activities.

“It’s a class that will challenge you both socially and intellectually, as it requires you to actually put your leadership skills into action,” said Doane.

The class is geared towards students interested in leadership positions at school, the community, and beyond. It involves several course readings, in-class discussions, and real-world experience in leadership roles.

During the twice-a-week meetings, there are a variety of lectures and activities to instruct students about

different leadership styles, skills, and aspects of group dynamics.

A strict attendance policy is enforced, allowing only one free absence before the grade begins to drop.

There are also several individual assignments spaced out over the semester in addition to the normal reading and discussion obligations. Students must write two three-page essays discussing their own views on leadership, what they have learned thus far, and how they have developed their own leadership skills.

Additionally, they must complete a service-learning project, which requires out-of-class participation at a non-profit of the student’s choice. Not only do students volunteer, but they are required to have a leadership role at the non-profit. Students are required to write a short summary of the experience.

“For example, a student can’t just show up for a park clean-up. They have to serve on the planning committee for

the park clean-up,” said Doane. “This class requires students to volunteer as a leader.”

Another important task for students in the class is to take part in a leadership project, event, or program by running for a leadership position in a student organization, volunteering for a committee, campaigning for a spot on ASCSM, or helping as a leader in the surrounding community.

Furthermore, the class hosts several guest lectures throughout the term. Last spring’s class heard presentations on group dynamics from St. Jude’s hospital, emotional intelligence by Outdoor Rec Center Director Rob Thompson, and diversity issues from Terre Deegan-Young, a counselor in Student Development and Academic Services.

This combination of activities and assignments provided a good time for those enrolled in the course.

“I liked the class because it revealed the characteristics in my per-

sonality that I could harness to become a more effective leader,” said Ellice Whittington, a junior who took the class last semester.

Overall, the class’ purpose is to begin a preliminary study of leadership. Key ideas and concepts about what leadership is, what it means, and how to properly use it are taught with the intention to build a foundation for future leadership experiences.

“Everything I learned in the course is applicable to life, from the work place to the basketball court,” said Whittington.

Students wishing to sign up for this class can find it in the course catalog under MSGN 497. Currently, the schedule has the class on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:00-4:30.

Leadership skills are important outside the academic world. This class can be a head-start on success in the real world. “I recommend it for everyone, particularly engineers,” said Whittington.

GOLDEN BOWL
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Egg Drop Soup	Beef Broccoli	Vegetable Lo Mein
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(veg, chicken, beef, pork)	Happy Family	Kung Pao Chicken
Potato Pork	S&S Chicken	
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1 FREE EGG ROLL or 2 FREE WONTONS

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Combo Meals \$4.95

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#2 Happy Family, Sweet & Sour Chicken with Fried or Steam Rice, 1 Egg Roll

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Fast Food Nation

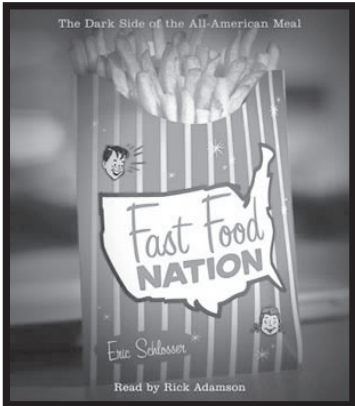
The Chief's Review of the Book-Turned-Movie

By Shaemus Gleason
Editor-In-Chief

Following the widespread acclaim and success of his book *Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All American Meal*, Eric Schlosser, with the help of Richard Linklater, is bringing this exploration of America's super sized culture to the big screen. Schlosser was approached by many people to turn his best selling book into a documentary, though in the end Schlosser felt this would "lead to some kind of sellout, just because of how highly charged a lot of the material is."

This changed when he was approached by Jeremy Thomas and Malcolm McLaren, to turn his book not into a documentary but a "character study of the facts and figures of fast food."

This is not a B-rate movie. The director and co-writer Jerry Linklater has "helmed such diverse works as *Dazed and Confused* and *Waking*



Courtesy google.com

Life." The cast is nothing to look down on either; you will find the characters

in the book represented by the likes of Patricia Arquette, Wilmer Valderrama, and Ethan Hawke, amongst many others.

For those of you who have not read the book, this is not an alternative, though it provides a great insight into many of the underlying themes of a nation blinded by trans-fats, eminent domain and a general disregard for workers' rights. Simply put, this film is not designed to "make you feel good," according to Schlosser. Furthermore, many of the storylines in the book are based on people and places in Colorado.

If you are willing to take an objective look at the trans-fats and high fructose corn syrups that many parts of America run on, put down your big mac and go see *Fast Food Nation*, which hits theaters on the 17th of this month.

No Offense, But...

'Borat' Shows Off Talent to Hilariously Offend Millions

By Jason Fish
News Editor

The box office's latest big hit is a fake. Borat Sagdiyev, a journalist from Kazakhstan, come to visit America, is really British comedian Sacha Baron Cohen. Actually, that was the point in *Borat!: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan*.

The documentary-style film portrays Cohen as Borat, who travels around America, experiencing facets of culture and society, and causing embarrassment and awkwardness for everyone he meets, from a driving instructor to the Veteran Feminists.

Despite a large fan-base, there has been controversy on many fronts concerning the content of Cohen's film.

Part of the posing comedian's trip took him to visit some members of a fraternity at a university in South Carolina. The production crew recruited the men and, after some drinking and release waivers, gave them a spot with Borat for a portion of the movie.

During the experience, the inebriated college students made several racist and sexist remarks. These statements appeared in the final production and, even though the names of the

students, their fraternity, and their school were not included, they are upset about the embarrassing situation. Recently, two of the students have filed a lawsuit against the producers of *Borat* contending they were "duped" into making the comments.

The cries against Cohen's movie have also come internationally. A human rights group in Germany formally complained about statements made during *Borat* inciting violence and slander against gypsies. 20th Century Fox in Germany, a distributor of the film's main supporter, has since pulled some television ads about the movie.

Borat's popularity in the U.S. has been large. The movie was the overall

leader during its opening weekend, bringing in about \$26.5 million.

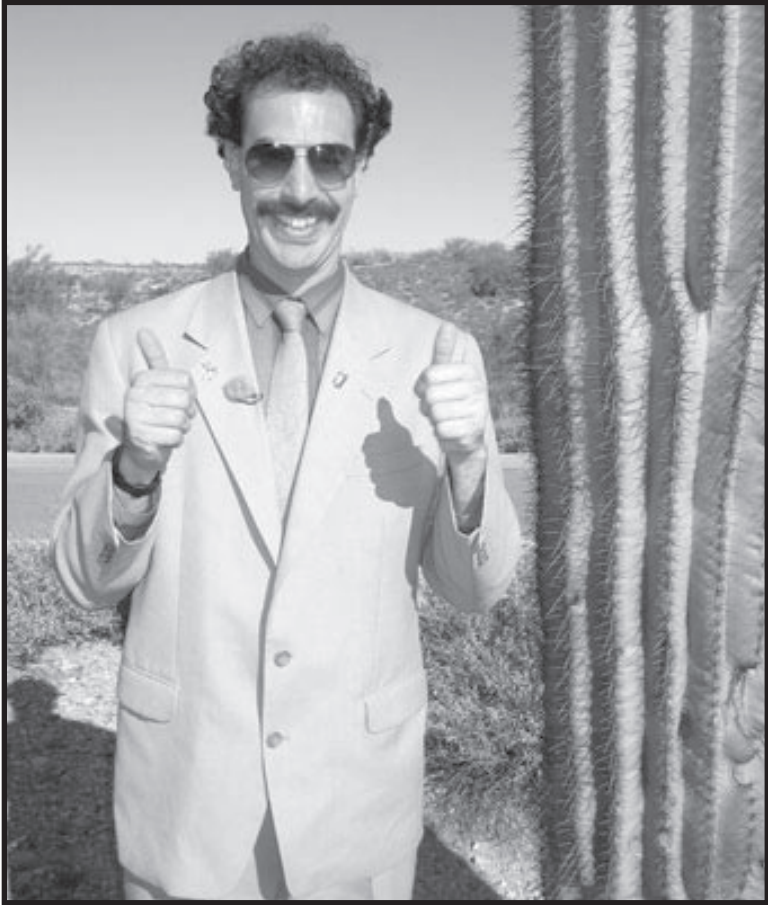
The protest has been especially strong in the spoof journalist's "home" country of Kazakhstan. Citizens across the nation have expressed deep anger and disgust at how Borat's antics reflect on their image as a people.

Kazakh officials have invited the comedian to Kazakhstan, to see how the country really is and explore its history. Currently, the general opinion in the media is if Cohen were to make the journey to the Eastern European country, he may be in for an unpleasant welcome.

Closer to home, theaters around the Colorado School of Mines have welcomed many students since opening night. While the comedy of *Borat* was generally enjoyed, some viewers were more skeptical.

"If you like South Park's style of humor, there is a good chance you'll like this movie," said David Wilson, a sophomore at Mines. "If you find that kind of humor offensive or disgusting, you should probably skip it."

Borat is still number one atop the charts, heading into its second week. Without a doubt, this movie has caused a stir that shows no signs of dying down anytime soon.



Courtesy wikipedia.com

Borat was released to theatres a week and a half ago amid widespread controversy and protest.

Reel Geek

A film geek writes about geeks on film

By Jen Schneider
Guest Columnist

Usually in this column I review films that my students recommend, and I recommend a classic or cult film for them to see in return. I'm not teaching my class "The Scientist and Engineer in American Film" this semester, but I know if I was, my students would have insisted I see *Running With Scissors*. Below is a review of this film, followed by a review of a classic. And I'll be teaching "Introduction to Film Studies" in the spring, so make sure to keep an eye out for more "Reel Geeks" then!

My Students' Pick:
Running with Scissors
(2006)

Believe it or not, the end of the semester is almost upon us. Some of you will be returning home to your families for the break, basking in the glow of free laundry, stockings hung with care, and plenty of time to catch up on reality television. The winter break will give many of you time to relax and reflect on all that you have to be thankful for.

Others of you may return to dysfunction and chaos—little brothers and sisters running around the house screaming, Aunt Edna losing her dentures in the turkey, Grandpa Joe having too much eggnog at Christmas dinner. Maybe your family doesn't even celebrate the holidays. Maybe you just *wish* they didn't.

But, take heart. As bad as a few weeks with your family may be, it could be worse. You could have Augusten Burroughs's family.

The new film *Running with Scissors* is based on Burroughs's memoir by the same name, and details his bizarre upbringing with a deranged and drug-addled mother Deirdre (played brilliantly by Annette Bening) who fancies herself a famous poet, and an alcoholic father Norman (Alec Baldwin) who eventually abandons him. An adolescent Augusten is, through a series of twists and turns, eventually adopted by his mother's eccentric (to say the least) therapist Dr. Finch (Brian Cox) and his kooky family.

This may sound like high drama, but in fact the film is more a dark comedy than anything. The characters are so outrageous that they are both tragic and comedic. For instance, in one scene, Deirdre has moved every piece of tableware the family owns out onto the lawn for a "moonbath," so that it may be cleansed of Dr. Finch's "energy." One would cry at Deirdre's pathology if it weren't so, well, funny. And, of course, the audience can take heart in the fact that, though he fought severe alcoholism along the way, Burroughs grew up to be a successful author himself.

I'm often wary of adaptations of popular memoirs to the screen; my

rule is usually that I have to read the book before seeing the film, because adaptations often ruin otherwise excellent stories. I haven't read *Running with Scissors* yet, but this movie made me want to. It achieves an excellent balance of humor and pathos, and is full of stunning performances by Bening, Joseph Fiennes (of *Shakespeare in Love* fame), and newcomer Joseph Cross, who plays Augusten.

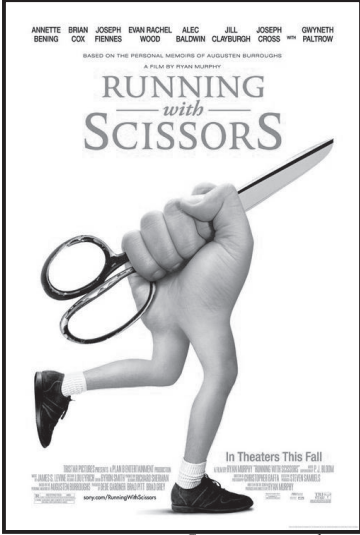
So if your family starts making you a little crazy this December, check out *Running with Scissors* for some perspective.

My Pick:
Harold and Maude
(1971)

I always tell my students that *Harold and Maude* is a movie you need to see before you die. Like *Running with Scissors*, it is a dark comedy, rich in humor and pathos. Like *Running*, it features amazing performances with rich characters. And like *Running*, it is a study of the weird: it challenges our taboos and expectations, and forces us to reconsider what we view as normal.

It's tough to talk about *Harold and Maude* without giving away the plot's central surprise, but I will say this: the film follows Harold (Bud Cort), an adolescent boy from a wealthy family who, in an effort to get his mother's attention, is constantly staging his own elaborate, gothic, mock suicides (she pays him no attention). In fact, Harold is quite lost in life until he meets Maude (Ruth Gordon), a woman substantially older than he. Maude teaches Harold how to relax and have fun, and the two become close, er, friends. Taboo indeed.

Harold and Maude makes a perfect companion to *Running with Scissors*: both are cut from the same cloth. They remind us that families come in all shapes and sizes, and they underscore the ability of the human heart to transcend the boundaries of sex, age, and bloodline. They also suggest the resilience of the human spirit in the face of heartbreaking abandonment and lots of familial quirkiness. If you have time before finals, take some time to check out both movies: you won't be sorry.



Courtesy impawards.com

--NOW SHOWING AT MINERS ALLEY PLAYHOUSE-- Amahl & The Night Visitors

Directed by Robert Kramer
Musical Direction by Boni McIntyre
Accompanied by Travis Yamamoto

Get To Know *Ollabelle*

A Review Of Their Second CD 'Riverside Battle Songs'

By Scott Bromley
Entertainment Editor

At first glance this CD was not impressive. It seemed like another underground band with no talent and no direction. However, the first blues guitar riff that opens the 1st song "See Line Woman," immediately opened my mind to give it a chance, because if it starts with such a unique riff, the rest is worth a listen.

This is the New York based Quintet second album following their self-titled debut in 2004. I haven't heard their first album, but this album seems very mature. It's obvious these members are deep into their music and know exactly how they want it to sound.

The music itself is a fairly distinctive and unique blend of gospel, blues, bluegrass and country. The tasteful

blend of vocal harmonies with the variety of background instruments and melodies lend themselves to a very chill and flowing record. It's easy to envision driving through the desert with this album playing in



Courtesy ollabelle.net
Ollabelle's Second CD 'Riverside Battle Songs' was released over the summer on the Verve label.

the background, providing a great soundtrack. The name "Ollabelle" originated from the rural songstress Ola Belle Reed, an obvious large influence on the band. "High on a Mountain," the second song on the album, is a cover of the song originally written by her.

The best song on the album is "Dream the Fall." It starts out with a progressive, spinning guitar picking melody behind Amy Helm (daughter of legendary drummer Levon Helm of The Band) singing a slowly rising and falling melody to match the

chord progression. The song then builds to a powerful breakout in the first line of the chorus with the mandola, accordion and dobro providing a mysterious and bluegrass-esque melody to punctuate it. It offers a great example to the rest of the album of the bandmates' vocal and instrumental interplay, mining an evocative palette of acoustic and electric textures blended to form a deeply expressive song.

The band does a great job combining each of the individual's styles and vocals within the myriad of instruments they bring to the table. Each song tries to showcase the vocal talents of each band member, and with at least nine different instruments and five different vocals blending together to form the 13 songs on the album, one has to appreciate the difficulty of the task. Fiona McBain (vocals, guitars) comments on the morphing of the five individuals to the collective band as a whole. "The new record, to me, sounds more like

us," says Fiona. "When we made the first one, we weren't really a band, and our collaboration was new and a little timid. Now, three years down the track, there's been a natural evolution in both the music and our personal relationships, and I think that you can hear that on this record."

Glenn Patscha (vocals, keyboards, accordion) explains his impression of the album, its title and its meaning: "To me, they're all battle songs. Life isn't easy, and the good things in life

"At the end of the day, we will all wind up by that river and will have to reckon with our own truths."

are truly worth fighting for. The tricky part is that these big battles happen within every person, not across the street or across the ocean. At the end of the day, we will all wind up by that river and will have to reckon with our own truths."

Riverside Battle Songs' compelling songcraft and organic performance demonstrate the potent musical and personal rapport that seem to fuel the band's creativity.

Arriving Shortly

...the Movies You'd Kill To See And Those That Will Die In Theatres...

By Chase Hoffman
Asst. Editor-In-Chief

Release Date: November 17th

Casino Royale
20th Century Fox
Action
Rated PG-13

Starring: Daniel Craig, Eva Green, Judi Dench
Directed by Martin Campbell

Summary: This is a prequel to the Bond series. It begins with James earning his 00 title, and his mission is to track down a known terrorist in Madagascar. As he learns more, he shifts priorities to take out a "banker" who helps finance international terrorism.

Impression: Many are skeptic about this new guy, Daniel Craig. He may not be Sean Connery or Pierce Brosnan, but I give you my word you will love this film like all the other Bond films.

This one should be above average. There's no ridiculous fantasy world where Cars are alive yet there are no people. I think you should know what to expect here.

Let's Go to Prison
Universal Pictures
Comedy
Rated R

Starring: Dax Shepard, Will Arnett, Chi McBride
Directed by Bob Odenkirk

Summary: In order to get revenge, John Lyshitski (Shepard) manages to get the son of his enemy behind bars. On top of that, he also joins him in order to rub salt in the wound.

Impression: A shameless prison comedy... expect all the typical jokes. There should be some gems here and there, but overall it might be kind of bland.

Impression: There's a neat little plot here and a pretty decent cast. Tony Scott has a distinct style that can get the job done, but no guarantees. Expect something similar to the style of *Domino*.

The Fountain
Warner Bros. Pictures
Drama
Rated R

Starring: Hugh Jackman, Rachel Weisz
Directed by Darren Aronofsky (also directed *Requiem for a Dream* and *π*)

Summary: A conquistador from the 1500's has discovered the Tree of Life and is trying to understand its mysteries so that he can save his love.

Impression: Darren Aronofsky is unlike any other filmmaker. He brings a strange intensity to his films that most people are not familiar with. I sincerely expect this film to a bit of a mind bender.

Bobby
MGM Pictures
Drama
Rated R

Starring: Anthony Hopkins, Demi Moore, Sharon Stone
Directed by Emilio Estevez

Summary: This historical re-enactment of the assassination of JFK particularly surrounding the 22 other guests at Ambassador Hotel.

Impression: It seems like a fairly in-

teresting movie with huge star power. It looks like it might bring something new to the table that surrounds the mytique and mystery of JFK's death.

Tenacious D in 'The Pick of Destiny'
New Line Cinema
Comedy
Rated R

Starring: Jack Black, Kyle Gass
Directed by Liam Lynch

Summary: Jack and Kyle form the band, Tenacious D, and seek to be the best rock band in the world. In order to help them achieve this goal, they must attain the 'Pick of Destiny.'

Impression: Honestly, Jack Black is a great actor. He's funny, versatile and unique, but I carry serious doubts for this film. If you're not familiar with Liam Lynch, go see some of his little whacky shorts and listen to his goofy songs.

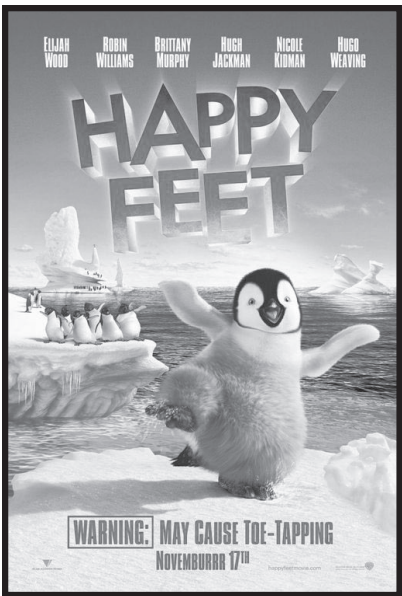
Deck the Halls
20th Century Fox
Comedy
Rated PG

Starring: Matthew Broderick, Danny DeVito, Kristin

Chenoweth
Directed by John Whitesell

Summary: Two neighbors become unnaturally competitive in their demonstration of Christmas spirit. Lunacy ensues.

Impression: Ok, folks... this has been done over and over and over again.



Courtesy impawards.com

Happy Feet
Warner Bros. Pictures
Children
Rated PG

Starring: Elijah Wood, Brittany Murphy, Hugh Jackman
Directed by George Miller

Summary: In the penguin society, lovers find their mates through song, but one penguin is different. Mumble (Wood) has no talent for singing, but when it comes to dancing, he can tear it up.

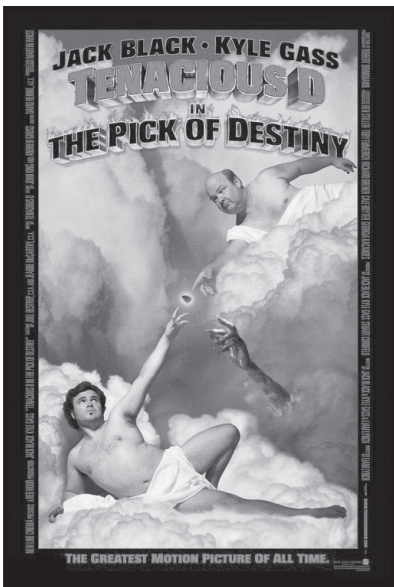
Impression: Here's the periodic computer animated children's film.

Release Date: November 22nd

Déjà Vu
Buena Vista Pictures
Action/Drama
Rated PG-13

Starring: Denzel Washington, Paula Patton, James Caviezel
Directed by Tony Scott (also directed *Man on Fire* and *Domino*)

Summary: ATF agent (Washington) has been introduced to a special government agency that tries to prevent crime that already happened.



Courtesy impawards.com

COMING SOON...

-MAC presents Beerfest in Ballroom A tomorrow at 9:30 pm.

-Alice In Chains plays the Fillmore on the 20th.

-Tenacious D visits Denver on the 22nd.

-Panic! At the Discso comes the 28th to the Fillmore.

-FAC brings Bernadette Pauly on Friday December 1st

-All-American Rejects play the Fillmore on Dec. 10th.

MAC NOTES

By Becca Hubis
Guest Reporter

Bored? Need something to do? Fed up with CAPA and Calc? Well, DON'T FRET! The Mines Activities Council has got lots of great events still left this semester!

On Thursday, November 16th we will be showing the hilarious *Beerfest*. On November 30th we will be showing the ever clever Will Ferrell in *Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby*. Our last movie of the semester will be *World Trade Center* on December 7th. All movies are in Ballroom A at 9:30 PM, and, as always, we will have free popcorn and 50 cent sodas!!

We also have one more FAC this semester. Free food, one dollar beers, and endless laughs, what more could you ask for?! Come see the hilarious Bernadette Pauly December 1st in the I-Club. Food starts at 4PM and the show starts at 5PM.

With all these events still left this semester, how can anyone even think about being bored?! We hope to see you there!



Courtesy MAC

Early Storms Bring Early Skiing

Courtesy Colorado Ski Country

10/26/06 - As yet another monster early season snow storm works its way across Colorado today, ski resorts from around the state are reporting huge overnight snowfall accumulations and revising resort opening dates.

Wolf Creek Ski Area has received 5.5 feet of natural snowfall since September 15. As a result, the ski area will be opening a week earlier than originally planned. Tomorrow, Wolf Creek will celebrate its earliest opening in resort history and will be the third resort in the country to open for the 2006-07 winter season. After receiving more than three feet of snowfall this month alone, Keystone Resort announced today it has revised its opening date and will open one week earlier than previously scheduled. The resort will now open Friday, November 3. Copper Mountain is



Jack Afleck/Vail Resorts
Eager skier cuts through new pow-pow (powder to the layman)

also scheduled to open November 3.

As of noon today, it is still snowing heavily in Colorado's high country. Front Range resorts are reporting the most overnight snowfall in the state with more than two feet of snow blanketing the mountains this morning. The northern and southern portions of the state have a received as much as a foot of new snow in the past 24-hours.

The entire state of Colorado is currently under a winter storm warning with portions of the state under a blizzard warning throughout the day. Snowfall is anticipated to continue this afternoon; however sunshine is anticipated for the coming weekend. Arapahoe Basin, Loveland and Wolf Creek will be the only ski areas in the country offering skiing and riding this holiday weekend.

If early season snowfall is any indication of the coming season, Colorado is headed for a banner year. Resorts across the state are reporting above-average snowfall for the month of October. Year-to-date snowfall totals include: 73 inches at Loveland, 65 inches at Wolf Creek, 60+ inches at Aspen, and 53 inches at Telluride.

Just The Basic Facts

Arapahoe Basin Base Elevation: 10,780 ft. Summit Elevation: 13,050 ft. Vertical Drop: 2,270 ft. Snowmaking: 125 acres Lift Capacity: 8,700 riders/hour Total Skiable Area: 490 acres Longest Run: 1.5 miles	Aspen Highlands Dates Open: 12/09/06 - 04/01/07 Base Elevation: 8,040 ft. Summit Elevation: 11,675 ft. Vertical Drop: 3,635 ft. Lift Capacity: 6,500 riders/hour Total Skiable Area: 1,010 acres Longest Run: 3.5 miles	Aspen Mountain Dates Open: 11/23/06 - 04/15/07 Base Elevation: 7,945 ft. Summit Elevation: 11,212 ft. Vertical Drop: 3,267 ft. Lift Capacity: 10,755 riders/hour Total Skiable Area: 673 acres Longest Run: 3 miles	Beaver Creek Dates Open: 11/22/06 - 04/15/07 Base Elevation: 7,400 ft. Summit Elevation: 11,440 ft. Vertical Drop: 4,040 ft. Snowmaking: 635 acres Lift Capacity: 31,539 riders/hour Total Skiable Area: 1,805 acres Longest Run: 2.75 miles
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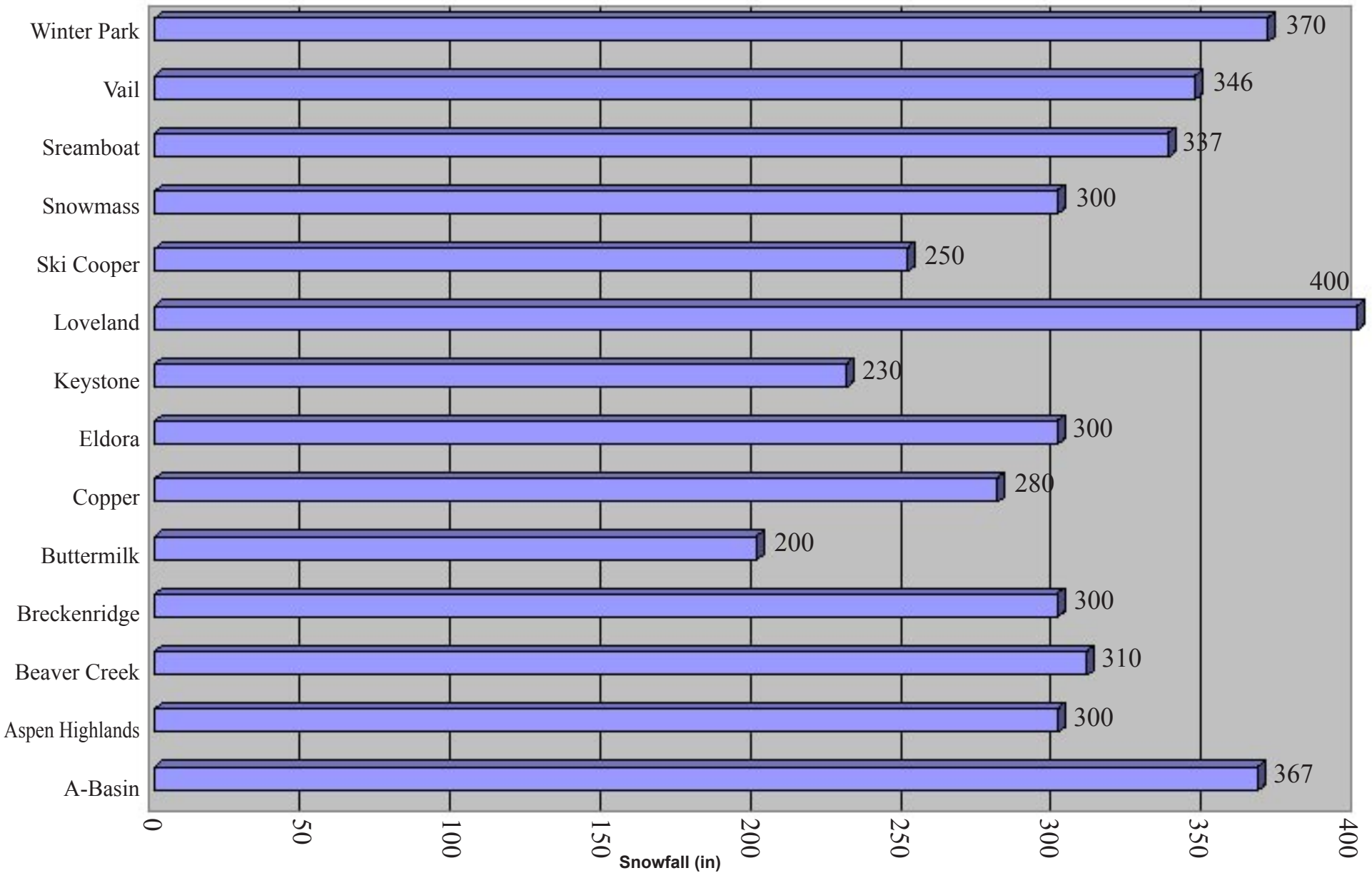
Breckenridge Dates Open: 11/10/06 - 04/22/07* Base Elevation: 9,600 ft. Summit Elevation: 12,998 ft. Snowmaking: 565 acres Lift Capacity: 40,680 riders/hour Total Skiable Area: 2,358 acres Longest Run: 3.5 miles	Buttermilk Dates Open: 12/09/06 - 04/01/07 Base Elevation: 7,870 ft. Summit Elevation: 9,900 ft. Vertical Drop: 2,030 ft. Snowmaking: 108 acres Lift Capacity: 7,500 riders/hour Total Skiable Area: 435 acres Longest Run: 3 miles	Copper Dates Open: 11/03/06 - 04/15/07 Base Elevation: 9,712 ft. Summit Elevation: 12,313 ft. Vertical Drop: 2,601 ft. Snowmaking: 380 acres Lift Capacity: 32,324 riders/hour Total Skiable Area: 2,450 acres Longest Run: 2.8 miles	Eldora Dates Open: N/A Base Elevation: 9,200 ft. Summit Elevation: 10,800 ft. Vertical Drop: 1,600 ft. Total Skiable Area: 680 acres Longest Run: 3 miles	Keystone Dates Open: 11/10/06 - 04/15/07 Base Elevation: 9,300 ft. Summit Elevation: 12,408 ft. Vertical Drop: 3,128 ft. Snowmaking: 684 acres Lift Capacity: 33,564 riders/hour Total Skiable Area: 3,148 acres Longest Run: >3 miles
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Loveland Dates Open: 10/14/06 - 05/01/07* Base Elevation: 10,600 ft. Summit Elevation: 13,010 ft. Vertical Drop: 2,410 ft. Snowmaking: 160 acres Total Skiable Area: 1,365 acres Longest Run: 2 miles	Snowmass Dates Open: 11/23/06 - 04/15/07 Base Elevation: 8,104 ft. Summit Elevation: 12,510 ft. Vertical Drop: 4,406 ft. Snowmaking: 185 acres Lift Capacity: 31,080 riders/hour Total Skiable Area: 3,128 acres Longest Run: 5.3 miles	Steamboat Dates Open: 11/22/06 - 04/22/07* Base Elevation: 6,900 ft. Summit Elevation: 10,568 ft. Vertical Drop: 3,668 ft. Snowmaking: 438 acres Lift Capacity: 32,158 riders/hour Total Skiable Area: 2,965 acres Longest Run: >3 miles	Vail Dates Open: 11/17/06 - 04/15/07 Base Elevation: 8,120 ft. Summit Elevation: 11,570 ft. Vertical Drop: 3,450 ft. Snowmaking: 390 acres Lift Capacity: 53,381 riders/hour Total Skiable Area: 5,289 acres Longest Run: 4 miles	Winter Park Dates Open: 11/15/06 - 04/15/07 Base Elevation: 9,000 ft. Summit Elevation: 12,060 ft. Vertical Drop: 3,060 ft. Snowmaking: 299 acres Lift Capacity: 36,920 riders/hour Total Skiable Area: 3,060 acres Longest Run: 4.5 miles
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*dates subject to change.

Let it Snow, Let it Snow

Average Yearly Snowfall for Each Ski Park



Did you hear an Echo?

By Lily Giddings
Staff Reporter

Anxious to get out there and enjoy the winter sports, but don't want to drive all the way to one of the big mountains to get that quality experience? Why not check out Echo Mountain Park? It is 35 miles away, so getting some good runs in and getting back in time to finish homework is quite feasible. That is, if you plan on leaving early: Echo's slopes are lit for night skiing, so the fun doesn't have to stop when it gets dark.

The park was designed by Planet Snow Tools, a prestigious snow park design company. Built on a small resort from the '70's, the park has one lift that services all of the runs. Though the park does not have many runs yet, they continue to expand and improve, adding new features to the existing runs.

Echo Mountain Park opened in January 2006, as a small park focused on becoming an outlet for the freestyle techniques that have become more popular for skiers and snowboarders today. The 240-acre park may seem small when compared to resorts such as Breckenridge, Copper, Keystone, or Arapahoe Basin, but Echo Mountain is an institution solely for those who like to practice jumps, tricks, and other terrain park-only techniques.

Just because Echo is smaller



Courtesy Echo Mountain Park

A skillful skier going through the daily grind at Echo Mountain Park.

does not make it inferior to larger parks in snow, however. Echo is fully equipped with snow-making facilities, to complement the 200 to 225 inches of natural snow a year.

Larger resorts include runs, and lifts, for all levels of experience. Echo has two lifts, a triple chair, and a surface lift with access to all runs, for experienced riders. Because Echo is a terrain park, riders should be prepared to sign the season waiver.

Features include a super pipe, jumps, rails, and boxes, all in a range of sizes. Riders can take advantage of the park from 10 am to 9 pm every day. Another perk of skiing at a

small park is the price of tickets. On weekdays, patrons can get tickets for \$25, \$20 after 4 pm, and \$35 on weekends. The passes are an even better deal: Echo doesn't set blackout dates, so riders can use the passes whenever they have the time to take a few runs.

Echo Mountain Park opens on November 22nd, but tickets and season passes are on sale now. A range of prices and options for passes should satisfy the budgets of any avid riders. For more information on tickets and the park itself visit www.echomtn-park.com.



Courtesy Benjamin Teschner

Nichole Sherrill gets locked and loaded before her start atop Winter Park.

Ready, Set, Ski!

By Benjamin Teschner
Ski Team President

It's a cool fall afternoon on the Colorado Front Range. South of CSM at the Red Rocks Amphitheater, the sun has slipped behind the mountains and a cool breeze comes down from the hills. As tourists snap photos of the historic concert venue, a small group of Mines students are finishing up their "stairs" workout. Andrew Hudson, a freshman, lifts his shirt to wipe the sweat from his brow and takes a big swig from his water bottle. "This place kicks my butt every time," he says.

He and the other 14 members of the ski team have been actively preparing for the upcoming season by working out at Red Rocks, as well as in the weight room, the soccer field, and the swimming pool. "When the ski season comes, we're going to be ready!" said Cassi Roe, a junior and the team's vice president.

The team races in the United States Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Association's (USCSA) Rocky Mountain Conference (RMC), a division that includes the likes of Colorado Mountain College, Fort Lewis, Colorado College, Colorado State University, University of Wyoming, the Air Force Academy, and the skiing powerhouses University of Colorado and University of Denver. Despite the stiff competition, the CSM team, especially the

women's team, has experienced an enormous amount of success in the past few years. They have consistently qualified for the regional competition, and sent individuals to the national meet.

This year, despite having a young team, the Mines skiers are aiming to qualify for this year's regional competition at Red Lodge in Montana. A small group of team veterans, including Nichole Sherrill, Bryan Babcock, Cassi Roe, and Ben Teschner are leading a promising group of young skiers into this year's season.

This year's promising freshmen include, Melinda Bartel, Ashley Story, Lucas Moore, Rick Thomas, Andrew Hudson, Daniel Dudley, Max Berglund, and Kathleen Lyon, last year's Colorado high school state champion. In addition to the new freshmen, Senior Matt Jameson has decided to compete in his first year of collegiate racing. The team has also benefited from the international exchange program, acquiring Esther Dieker from Holland and Maan Alasfoor from Oman for 2007.

As the snow flies, the team will begin on-snow training in the evenings, under the lights at Keystone. The team would also be excited to see you at their meets this season, at resorts all across Colorado. For more information on the ski team, visit the team's website http://www.mines.edu/stu_life/organ/ski.



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THE OREDIGGER

Editorials

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Global warming

No Question on Earth



By Dr. John D. Humphrey
 Geology and Geological Engineering Dept.

By Dr. Wendy Harrison
 Geology and Geological Engineering Dept.

The overwhelming majority of climate scientists agree that the Earth's climate is changing and that surface-air temperatures and ocean temperatures are rising. The global community and policy makers have been provided a superb summary of the findings of hundreds of scientists in the Third Assessment Report (2001) by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC - www.ipcc.ch). In this and previous reports, the IPCC clearly documents increasing global temperatures over the past century of a rate and duration much greater than in any of the past nine centuries. The issue is not whether global climate is warming, but rather the issue is how human activities, such as burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, and agriculture, and natural causes are balanced in driving those changes, and what actions should be undertaken as a result of such warming. The world eagerly awaits distribution of the IPCC Fourth Assessment in 2007.

The Earth's climate system is an enormously complex entity, in

which inputs, outputs, and feedback exist among the atmosphere, ocean, biosphere, and land surface. These interactions make a system that is difficult to characterize in total. However, there are some simple physical constraints that virtually all scientists can, and do, agree upon. Of primary importance is the physical behavior of the principal greenhouse gases: water vapor, carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, and methane. These gases are transparent to short-wave radiation incoming from the Sun (visible light and ultraviolet radiation). However, they strongly absorb long-wave, infrared (i.e., heat) radiation. Further, as the atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases increases, greater amounts of heat energy are absorbed. The major concern here is that as the concentration of greenhouse gases increases, less heat energy is re-radiated back to space, and more is trapped within the Earth's atmosphere, which will result in a warming of the atmosphere. It is also agreed upon that the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere has increased significantly since the Industrial Revolution, when the burning of fossil

fuels began.

A principal by-product of fossil fuel combustion is carbon dioxide. The amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, as measured in parts per million by volume (ppmV), has increased from a pre-Industrial Revolution level of 280 ppmV (and relatively constant over the last preceding 1000 years) to over 379 ppmV today, an increase of about 35% in the last 140 years. The present concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is now more than 27% higher than it has been at any time over the past 650,000 yr (as measured by gas bubbles trapped in ice cores from Greenland and Antarctica), and likely more than it has been over the past 20 million yr. Methane and nitrous oxide show very similar trends: methane has a 1750 AD concentration of 600 ppb and a modern concentration of 1873 ppb, while nitrous oxide has increased from 270 ppb to 319 ppb over the same period. There is no doubt that human activities are responsible for these increases in

Continued on Page 11

The Necessity for Open Discussion



By Dr. Christian Shorey

Geology and Geological Engineering Dept.

On Oct. 30, the New York Times reported on a memo from Michael Palmer, the general manager of two TV stations in Bangor, Maine, which instructed his news staff to halt all stories related to global warming. His reasons for censoring these reports were: "a) we do local news, b) the issue evolved from hard science into hard politics and c) despite what you may have heard from the mainstream media, this science is far from conclusive."

This story emphasizes one of the difficulties scientists have in communicating what we know about global warming, namely that it is not simply a scientific issue. Global warming involves social, political, and economic issues as well. I have no problem with Mr. Palmer's first reason for silence, but his second incorrectly implies that the issue has evolved away from science, and the third is terribly misguided. No science is conclusive. Theories are accepted in the sense that the majority of scientists involved agree that it would be perverse to withhold provisional consent.

The majority of scientists involved in the issue of climate change believe that it would be perverse to withhold provisional consent from the idea that humans are causing a warming of the troposphere (the lowest atmospheric layer). This might be considered an extraordinary claim, and thus requires extraordinary evidence. The past few decades have seen the accumulation of this evidence.

First and foremost is the global surface temperature of the past century which shows a clear warming trend over that period. Climate change skeptics have, in the recent past, questioned this record, but all further studies have supported the warming record. The loss of

mass from mountain glaciers around the world in the past century is supporting evidence for this global warming. Thus, it is safe to say that global warming is a fact and not really up for debate. The remaining uncertainty lays with the question of whether this warming is natural or human induced.

The proposed mechanism for human induced warming is the accumulation of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, mainly from the burning of fossil fuels. Focusing on CO₂, we must ask ourselves what observations we should expect if this gas was truly causing a significant proportion of the observed warming of the past century. Most obviously, we should expect to see an increase in CO₂ in the atmosphere. The Mona Loa Observatory record shows an increase from 315 ppmv in 1959 to the present value of 380 ppmv.

We should also see a correlation between past CO₂ concentration and global temperature. CO₂ measurements in ice cores show concentrations of approximately 280 ppmv in the centuries prior to the widespread use of fossil fuels, and has ranged between 182.2 and 298.7 ppm over the scale of hundreds of thousands of years while varying proportional to temperature. Though correlation should not be assumed to mean causation, the connection is compelling in the light of greenhouse gas science.

Lastly, climate models have achieved sufficient accuracy to simulate the global climate over the past century. Anthropogenic forcing is not only essential to these simulations, but clearly dominates over any natural forcing.

The evidence for human-induced climate change over the past century is compelling, and to censor reports (on local news stations or at the federal government level) because the case is not conclusive is contrary to the scientific process, and potentially dangerous. The case for climate change will only be conclusive when significant change has already occurred. Open discussion on the topic is one of the tools we need to prepare for the possibility of the climate change that is reasonably possible over the coming century.



Stay the Course

America Will Always Be an Addict



By Kevin Duffy
Staff Writer

My grandfather once presented me with a profoundly influential notion, "I have to get my fair-share of natural resources before everyone else does." He experienced the human condition over the last 71 years of his life, enough to be wise to the reality of the world. No one, including my grandfather, rejects the notion of global climate change or the fact that Earth contains a finite amount of resources. The real question to global warming lies not in the numbers, but in the inevitable sociological ramifications of the issue. The consumption of all Earth's resources may be a forgone conclusion.

Utopian societies of economic and social equality do not exist but for one reason; human nature. The driving force in global warming, industrialization and capitalism; the driving force in capitalism, the need to compete for the best. Scarcity of resources has always forced civilizations to compete for the best, only now the competition is beginning to reach an inescapably fatal conclusion; there is nothing left to compete for.

To truly understand global warming, one must realize that we are warming up the Earth because of our lifestyle choices. If industrialization has taught us anything, it is that the more we produce, the more we consume, and the more we love it! Why take the bus when I can drive? Why save the rainforest when I can buy stock in the company that destroys it? If humans were creatures of long-term ramifications, the answers to the above might seem obvious. However, the short-term gain represented by a non-environmental action almost always outweighs any long term damage of said action. And while those on a "personal moral high ground" who wish to save the environment pay \$10 for organic lettuce, the rest of

society regards that person as a simpleton who lacks a realistic self doctrine.

Anyone who wishes to solve problems in this world must be a realist with a touch of grandiose ideals. To look at a problem and define it as something that is not there is intellectually dishonest. Human beings were not made to last on Earth forever or take residence here as our permanent homes. Rather the Earth is to be cherished and used to support us during our temporary assignment as flesh and blood. The time will come when the Earth can no longer support the human race. We can do a multitude of things to extend that time, but never fully postpone it.

As engineers and scientists at CSM, it is often too easy to view the world in strictly black and white terms of statistical analysis and scientific methods. The

"Nothing short of a severe tragedy or drastic economic downturn will shift public opinion away from consumption and towards sustainability."

world certainly needs this analysis, but the broader problem is one of social dynamics, economic realizations, and spiritual convictions. To ignore these aspects of the problem is to ignore the problem itself. The School of Mines does a first-class job of researching alternative energy, climate patterns, mathematical models, and other theories. What good does this do if nobody realizes the very real social ideology of Western Society, in terms of environmental policy? Students and faculty alike need to strive for this critical understanding.

In many ways, nothing short of a severe tragedy or drastic economic downturn will shift public opinion away from consumption and towards sustainability. In the mean time, develop those new technologies, develop those wild theories about new energy sources, because one day soon society will rely on all of those products. We will rely on all of them in a way that may very well determine the continuation of the Human Race. So do not tread lightly, the rest of the world is counting on your new innovations to save the world.

Dear Editor,

I have a great deal of concern over the page of the Oredigger devoted to State Rep. Gwyn Green. The Oredigger ran an advertisement for Green and printed a full page article singing her praises, while her opponent's name, Former State Rep. Ramey Johnson, didn't appear even once in that edition. These actions show that the Oredigger effectively endorsed Green as a political candidate.

It's no secret that Editor Zach Aman and Gwyn Green are both very liberal Democrats; Green's 2004 platform included practically no issues, only a promise to act in a partisan fashion against the Republicans. The reason she won in 2004 was because liberal 527 groups sent out hundreds of false negative advertisements against Ramey Johnson. Not to mention, Former Rep. Bob Schaffer (R-CO) sent negative advertisements against Johnson, because she was too moderate for his very conservative platform, including Johnson's rejection of the Federal Marriage Amendment and school vouchers.

I agree with Aman on some issues and I praise his efforts in keeping this newspaper running, but his decision to practically endorse Green in my school's paper is insulting to me and other Johnson supporters. In 2003, this campus rejected Kale Franz's conservative, divisive resolution to endorse President Bush and the war in Iraq. As an independent voter, I believe that in 2006, the Oredigger staff should reject Aman's liberal, divisive partisanship in our newspaper, because these actions lower this paper to becoming no better than a disgraceful 527 group. The Oredigger should be the voice of our campus, not the voice of its liberal editors like the New York Times.

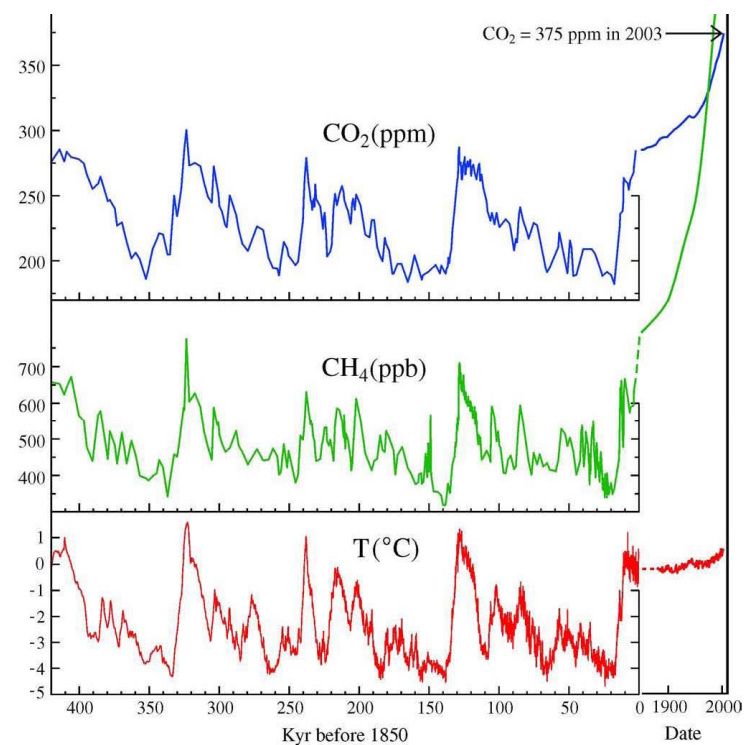
Sincerely, Chris Scherf

Mr. Scherf,

During the 2006 political season, neither Green nor Johnson were contacted. We were contacted by Representative Green in regard to advertising and an interview. We felt that denying Green's request based on Johnson's lack of participation would constitute political discrimination. We also felt it would show political bias to disclose Johnson's non-responsiveness. In the interest of neutrality, we chose to act such that the printed material concerning Johnson and Green reflected only the requests of either candidate.

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"CO₂, CH₄, and temperature records inferred from Antarctic ice core and recent in situ measurements." Courtesy Christian Shorey

Time for Change



By Isaac Silverman
Environment
Colorado Global
Warming Associate

As snow dusts the mountains and we head into another ski season here in Colorado, we could all use some good news about global warming.

No, the news isn't that global warming is not happening. Unfortunately, it is.

The good news is that we can do something about it, using tools that already exist, and that our economy will likely be stronger – and our lives better – if we do.

Science is clear that the world faces dramatic consequences—in the Rocky Mountain West we should expect reduced snow-pack, drought, and more severe fire seasons—if we fail to rein in our emissions of global warming pollutants like the carbon dioxide released from the burning of fossil fuels.

But science is also clear that what we do now to reduce emissions can make a difference – not in stopping global warming entirely, but in avoiding the worst consequences of a warming world.

We can do a lot to reduce emissions with tools at our disposal right now. For example, automakers have technologies on the shelf that would enable them to make cars that go much farther on a gallon of gas. America has the know-how to build houses, office buildings and factories that use much less energy – and to retrofit our existing buildings with energy-efficient technologies.

We know how to build communities that provide residents with more options for how to get to work, school and shopping, without using their cars while also saving them money. And we know how to get energy from the sun, wind and other natural forces. But right now, Europe and Japan are beating us to the punch, generating more of their electricity from renewable power each year using various technologies, many of which were developed at the National Renewable Energy Lab right here in Colorado.

By putting real muscle behind energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions, we can also address many of the biggest problems facing our economy and our national security. Building more efficient cars and driving them less means we'll be less dependent on foreign oil. Cutting our use of electricity and fossil fuels will leave us less susceptible to price spikes and reduce the pressure to invest

billions of dollars in new power plants and transmission lines. Study after study has shown that investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy are potent job-creators.

The best part is that these tools are available now. We don't have to wait for scientists to perfect a hydrogen car, figure out how to bury carbon dioxide underground or develop a fool-proof, waste-free nuclear reactor in order to get significant reductions in our emissions of global warming pollution.

How significant? A recent Environment Colorado Research and Policy Center report estimated that the United States can cut its global warming emissions by nearly 20 percent in the next fifteen years through a pedal-to-the-metal strategy to boost energy-efficient technologies and renewable energy. Reductions on that scale would be a sizable down-payment on the larger reductions we will need to achieve in the decades ahead if we want to keep global warming in check.

But we won't get there merely by asking individual Coloradans to drive less, weatherize their homes, and recycle. It's time for Colorado's leaders to put the full power of American know-how and work ethic behind the effort tackle global warming at home and at the national level.

Colorado's next governor should set strong goals for reducing global warming pollution here in Colorado. And the legislature should help us meet those goals. More than 70 candidates for state office have already endorsed The Plan for Colorado's New Energy Future which calls for our state to double its use of renewable electricity, biofuels, increase the energy efficiency of our homes and businesses, and invest in the development and deployment of new energy technologies. These steps will help put a significant dent in Colorado's global warming pollution.

In Washington, momentum is finally gathering for real solutions at the federal level as well.

Rep. Henry Waxman of California and Sen. James Jeffords of Vermont have introduced legislation that would commit the U.S. to major reductions in global warming pollution. By adopting those goals – and using clean energy solutions to meet them – America can help stave off the biggest environmental threat of the 21st century, break our reliance on fossil fuels, enhance our long-term economic and national security, and once again lead the world as a positive force for environmental change.

Representative Udall and Senators Salazar and Allard should cosponsor this critical legislation.

Looking Toward the Future

Continued from Page 10

greenhouse gases. Carbon dioxide and methane are released primarily from combustion of fossil fuels and nitrous oxide comes primarily from microbial degradation of commercial nitrogen fertilizers applied to soils.

It is the conclusion of the IPCC, based on these rather simple physical constraints, that there is indeed an anthropogenic forcing of climate change. The Third Assessment states that warming over the past 50 years is likely the result of increasing green-

house gases, and that it is very likely that 20th century warming contributed significantly to the following trends:

- A global sea-level rise of 10-20 cm in the past century
- A worldwide increase of 1% in precipitation over land
- A loss of sea ice draft (the part of sea ice that is under water) of about 1.5 m since the 1960's
- A loss of Arctic sea ice volume of 40% since the 1960's
- An increase in global mean surface temperature of 0.4 to 0.8°C in the last century
- An increase of ocean water

temperatures, averaged over 3000 m water depth, of 0.05°C in the last century

While natural climate variations have occurred throughout the 4.5 billion year history of Earth, it is only since the Industrial Revolution that human activities have had the power to significantly affect Earth's climate. This issue should be a major concern of policy makers worldwide. The means for seeking "win-win" or "no regret" solutions to the potential problems posed by global change will be a major policy focus in the next decade.

Flag Football, ‘Hutt Hutt Kick Butt!’

By Konrad Klett
Asst. Sports Editor

The women’s flag football Team Softball has won their fourth championship this season. The team is led by their two quarterbacks, Beth “Black Death” Skidmore and Bre “Mama” Brennan.

“We are very competitive but we’re out there to just have fun,” Brennan said. Their uniforms consist of red and white baseball tees with black under their eyes and sparkle on their faces.

Head Coach

Caleb “Coach Knockers” Ring

Assistant Coach

Travis Reilly

Offense

Tyler “Ty”Farley

Jenn “Donna” Newman

Sara “Sporty” Van Lindgren

Taylor “Ducky” Cayou

Marjorie “Marge” Cone

Danielle “Puch” Pucherelli

Defense

Stacie “Bam!” Larocque

Katie “Killer” Kocman

Juliane “Anastasia” Von Pichl

Megan “Fry” Freienmuth

Jackye “What?” Lagen

Gina “G-Dawg” Ross

Kicker

Kathleen Lyon

Softball beat Morgan 19-0 for the championship on Monday, November 6th. One player, Kaleigh “Pole” Starr, was unable to play due to illness, but cheered the team on from the sidelines anyway.

Melissa “Wheels” Stratton got touchdown after touchdown on Monday to defeat Morgan.

“Melissa’s got moves like Jackie Chan, spinnin’ off people, jumping over obstacles, and flying down the field like nobody’s business,” said Katie Kocman. “She’s amazing to say the least.”

IM Schedule

Swim Meet (M/W)
Deadline: 11/16
Tourney: 11/18

NBA Live ’07 (Open)
Deadline: 11/16
Tourney: 11/19

Monster Dodgeball (M/W)
Deadline: 11/16
Tourney: 11/28



Team Softball grins happily after their fourth straight championship win.

Katie Kocman/Oredigger

IM Gets XM

By Konrad Klett
Assistant Sports Editor

John Howard, the intramural sports director, has said that there is interest in both extramural basketball and flag football. School of Mines’ region does not currently have a host school for basketball, and NIRSA, the national intramural recreational sports association requires one. When there is a host school, however, Mines will send a men’s as well as a woman’s basketball team.

The regional tournaments for extramural flag football were some weeks ago but Mines did not compete. Some of the problems with starting a flag football team are the size of the field, and the different blocking allowed at the line by NIRSA (as opposed to what is allowed at Mines intramural games). As of now, it is possible a team from Mines would play a few games against Colorado Christian College, but nothing is yet set in stone. If you are interested in either, stop by the IM office next to the bookstore in the student center.

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For more information visit us in the Mines Park Community Center (next to the C Store) or call us at (303) 273-3184 or check us out at www.mines.edu/stu_life/recsports/morc.

Round 'em Up and Hold 'em Back



By Katie Kocman
Staff Reporter

History

Texas hold'em poker has a disputed history. It is very likely that it was derived from a number of different origins and influences.

In fact, it is documented that the concept of bluffing came from the English game of brag. Poker became popular in the United States during the Wild West era and in Mississippi River boat casinos.

Word has it that the earliest game of Texas hold'em was played in Robstown, Texas in the early 1900s.

Texas hold'em community card poker became popular during the 1970s, which is also when the first world series of poker took place. It is played in most casinos in the United States because it the most popular poker variant game.

Texas hold'em has no-limit betting and it is the main event in the World Series of Poker and the World Poker Tour.

Objective

Texas hold'em is usually played with between 2 and 10 people. However, it can be played with up to 22 players. The objective of Texas

hold'em is to win pots, which is very similar to other variants of poker. A pot is the sum of money that is wagered by the players during a hand. To win a pot, a player must form the best five card poker hand out of the seven cards available, or bet to cause other players to fold.

Legislation

Politics is a high-stake poker game in itself. In fact, online gambling lobbyists just lost a hand after Congress passed legislation to prohibit financial institutions from making payments to online gambling sites.

The Internet Gaming Prohibition and Enforcement Act was put into action on September 30, 2006. This act prohibits banks and financial institutions from processing payments for online gambling companies.

However, state lotteries, fantasy sport leagues, horse races, and gambling on Native American territories are all exempt from the legislation. In addition, Congress passed a bill called the Unlawful Internet Gambling Act (UIGA).

This act is useful in trying to make anti-gambling laws easier to enforce against gambling done on the internet. UIGA was added to the end of the SAFE Port Act. Legislation is more concerned about port security during a time of terrorism rather than disliking internet gambling.

With the UIGA in action, the

Federal Trade Commission and other federal financial regulators will be responsible for enforcement of this law. Civil and criminal penalty provisions will also be in place. In addition, law enforcement officials will work with Internet providers to block access to online gambling web sites.

At present, it is illegal for online gambling companies to operate in the United States. It is also illegal for residents to place bets on the internet. Although, many lobbyists think that the bill may not have much of an effect. Despite the law, a large percentage of online casinos still accept Visa, MasterCard, and PayPal.

Acquiring direct jurisdiction over internet gambling companies is a difficult task. The internet is so widespread nowadays that it is not difficult to gamble at home or in a workplace.

The easy access to gambling sites can cause people to acquire a gambling addiction and put more financial pressure on individuals.

In addition, it is easy for minors to have access to these sites and it is even easier to commit fraud over the internet. Putting the ban in place will take care of a lot of the issues. However, if the ban is put in place, people with an addiction to gambling may be forced to deal with illegal offshore entities.

Many people believe that online gambling should be regulated, rather than completely banning it.

People of the Poker Players Alliance believe that online poker should be regulated because it will generate \$3 billion in tax revenue. The same people also believe that UIGA is unfair and that it will be ineffective.

A majority of the internet gambling industry is almost entirely outside the United States. However, over half of its patrons live in the U.S. More than 7.8 million Americans log onto internet gaming sites annually. Last year, \$12 billion in revenue was pocketed by online gambling companies.

Where to play?

Students can play free Texas hold'em poker tournaments at The Spot on Tuesdays, and at the Blue Canyon Inn on Thursday nights.

Those students who are 21 and over can play in Central City and Blackhawk.

Brandon Crayne plays in Blackhawk and Las Vegas. Other free tournaments are held in bars in downtown Golden and Boulder. The CSM Lacrosse team will be hosting their annual poker tournament in the Spring.

GUEST SPEAKER: PAUL GOODFELLOW
(Shell E&P - Western Hemisphere Wells Manager)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2006

11:45 AM - 12:50 PM

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All Good Things Come to an End

Western St Stifles CSM; Mines' First Losing Season Since '00

**Western St, 21
CSM, 13**

By Bruce Bugbee
Sports Editor

The Colorado School of Mines football team ended their season with a 21-13 loss to conference rivals Western State last Saturday. Mines' season record fell to 4-7 overall and 2-6 in conference play. This is the Oredigger's first losing season since 2000.

Mines was first to put points on the scoreboard after junior kicker Aaron Abel drilled a 37-yard field goal half-way into the first quarter.

Western State struck back during the second quarter by taking advantage of two misplays by Mines' special teams. CSM punt return specialist Michael Curl misplayed a Western State punt, which led to a fumble recovery at Mines' 1-yard line for the Mountaineers. Western State's Avionne James scored a touchdown on the ensuing play.

On the Oredigger's next possession, Mines' punter Ryan Schletinge was blocked and Western State recovered the ball on Mines' 1-yard line and scored two plays later, making the game 14-3.

Both teams were held scoreless well into the second half until Mines' Abel nailed his second field goal of the game with 12:39 to play, cutting the score to 14-6.

Western State responded by adding another touchdown to the scoreboard after running back Jon Watson scrambled for a 13-yard run to put the Mountaineers up 21-6.

Mines quickly answered when Curl went 97 yards for his second



Courtesy Western State Athletics

Western's Skylar Webster ended the Oredigger's season after intercepting a pass in the endzone

kick return touchdown of the season, bringing the game to 21-13.

Mines' offense was able to regain possession with 51 seconds remaining in the game. Senior quarterback Garret Mehl hit receiver Brent Dickinson twice for gains of 34 and 13 yards to march the Orediggers down to

the Western State 27-yardline. After throwing three incomplete passes, Mehl was intercepted by freshman defensive back Skylar Webster in the end zone to end the game. Mehl went 15-31 for 150 yards with one interception.

In the midst of CSM's season end-

ing loss, senior running back Bryan Florendo ran for 135 yards on 27 carries, bringing his season total to 1018 yards rushing. Florendo is the first CSM player to run for more than 1000 yards since Lloyd Madden did it in 1939.



Chase Hoffman/Oredigger

Coach Clem Grinstead shows a glint of frustration during CSM's final home loss of the season against Mesa State on Nov. 4

2006 Oredigger Football Stats

Overall Team Stats

Avg. Pts Scored Per Game: 22.1
Avg. Pts Allowed Per Game: 25.2
Avg. Yards Offense Per Game: 294.5
Rushing:.....111.4
Passing:.....183.1
Avg. Yards Allowed Per Game: 303.6
Rushing:.....127.4
Passing:.....176.2

Individual Season Leaders

Rushing: Bryan Florendo, 1018 yards
Receiving: Michael Curl, 516 yards
Passing: Garret Mehl, 1163 yards
Interceptions: Ben Tiller, 2
Sacks: Marin Richardson, 6 sacks
Tackles: Hunter Wardlaw, 94 total

Season Recap

9/2/06
CSM, 21
Washburn, 41

9/9/06
CSM, 34
Fort Hays State, 24

9/16/06
CSM, 7
Adams State, 26

9/23/06
CSM, 0
Chadron State, 57

9/30/06
CSM, 69
OK Panhandle State, 0

10/7/06
CSM, 16
NM-Highlands, 19

10/14/06
CSM, 10
Western NM, 6

10/21/06
CSM, 31
Fort Lewis, 41

10/28/06
CSM, 20
Neb.-Kearney, 14

11/4/06
CSM, 22
Mesa State, 28

11/11/06
CSM, 13
Mesa State, 21

Season Record: 4-7
RMAC Record: 2-6

The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

Broncos Scrape by Despite Lackluster Offense; Denver 17, Oakland 13



Courtesy AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez

QB Jake Plummer led the Broncos to their seventh victory this season despite throwing three interceptions on Sunday.

By Bruce Bugbee
Sports Editor

The Denver Broncos continued their AFC West domination with a 17-13 victory over the Oakland Raiders in Oakland Sunday. The Broncos improved to 7-2 overall with a 3-0 record in conference play while the Raiders dropped to 2-7 overall and 0-3 in the AFC West.

Oakland, the team that many experts have hailed as the worst team in football this season, gave Denver a scare by leading the game well into

the fourth quarter.

“Down the road, no one will look back and say how ugly this was,” said Denver QB Jake Plummer who went 7-7 on the deciding touchdown drive despite throwing three interceptions earlier in the game.

Oakland scored first when Lamont Jordan was able to scramble for a one yard touchdown run halfway into the first quarter. Denver answered back on their last drive of the quarter when Plummer, who started off shaky, hit Broncos’ receiver Javon Walker for a 39 yard touchdown pass. Walker,



Courtesy AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez

Oakland’s Fabian Washington beat receiver Rod Smith to snag one of Denver QB Jake Plummer’s three intercepted passes Sunday.

who is arguably the best off-season addition for Denver this past year, showcased his abilities by evading two Oakland defenders to score his sixth touchdown of the season.

After Oakland kicker Sebastian Janikowski drilled two field goals of 55 yards and 20 yards respectively in

the second quarter, the score would remain stalemated at 13-7 until the fourth quarter.

Early in the fourth quarter Plummer nailed receiver Kyle Johnson in the red zone on what would be the deciding drive of the game. The Broncos finalized the score at 17-10 with the

help of a Jason Elam field goal.

This game was considered a “must win” for many Broncos fans in order for Denver to stay tied with conference rival San Diego. Both teams head into their meeting at Invesco Field this Sunday with 7-2 overall records and tied for the lead in the AFC West.

Dust Off Your Spandex and Let’s Get It On...

By Jason Harms
Staff Reporter

The Colorado School of Mines wrestling team has high hopes for this upcoming season. The CSM wrestlers were 1-10 in dual meets last season with their only win coming against New Mexico Highlands. Mines also finished 7th at the NCAA Division II West Regionals.

Over the history of the program, Mines has created 8 NCAA Division II Champions, 42 All-Americans, and the outstanding wrestler at the 1993 NCAA Division II Championship.

Despite the team’s busy schedule, the Oredigger was able to sit down with assistant wrestling coach Mike Marsh to get some insight into this year’s team. Coach Marsh is in his second season with the Orediggers.

Q: How is the season going so far?

A: It’s off to a positive start. We

have a couple of kids banged up, but the program is going in a very good direction.

Q: What are the team’s strengths?

A: One strong aspect of the team is we have most of our lineup back. Our lineup last year consisted mostly of freshman. Those guys now have a year of experience under their belt and I expect them to perform well. Another strong point is our new recruitment class.

Q: Talk a little bit about this year’s recruiting class. Who are the high prospects coming out of high school?

A: This year, we have five very strong recruits. All five of them placed at their state tournaments and three of them have won at least one state title. Geoff Meng was a high school All-American wrestler and Brennen Knerr was awarded Outstanding Wrestler honors at the Oklahoma state tournament.

Q: What are some of the expectations the coaches have for this year?

A: We obviously want to win most of our dual meets. The coaches want at

least five wrestlers to qualify for the regional and national tournaments. We also hope to produce a couple All-American wrestlers.

Q: Who would you say is “hot” and who is “not”?

A: Corey Swanson and Nathan Pilcher are two guys to watch this year. We don’t have anybody who is “not hot.”

Q: As a coach, what are some of the strong attributes you bring to the table?

A: I have a very good knowledge of the state of Colorado. I have coached in this state for thirty years, so I know a lot of the coaches and the programs from around here. This ultimately helps our recruitment process.

Q: What will the coaches be doing differently from last year to try and improve this year’s team?

A: We are spending more time on strength training, weight training, and improving mat wrestling. The team was at a minimum in scoring escapes and reversals last year, so that’s one area we wish to also improve.

The wrestling team is back in action hosting the Jack Hancock Invitational on Saturday, Nov. 18 at 9:00 am.

Orediggers Step It Up a Notch

Men’s Cross Country Qualifies for Nationals; Women’s Finishes 12th

By Bruce Bugbee
Sports Editor

The Colorado School of Mines men’s and women’s cross country teams competed at the North Central Regional Championships on Nov. 4 in Wayne, Neb. The women’s team finished 12th overall while the men’s team finished 3rd overall.

The men’s team third place finish qualified them for the NCAA Division II National Championships, which are to be held in Pensacola, Fla. this Saturday.

The CSM men finished third with 76 total points, falling behind Adams State’s 26 points and Western State’s 55 points. The top five men’s teams who competed at the tournament were rounded out by Minnesota State-Mankato and Augustana College, all of whom received bids to the national tournament.

CSM men’s team was led by senior Joel Hamilton, who finished third overall. Teammates Greg Reindl and Larry McDaris finished 9th and 10th

respectively.

The top 15 scorers of the tournament were given All-Region honors.

The Oredigger’s men’s top five finishes also included Ryan Miles’ 21st place finish and Michael Rooney’s 38th place finish.

The women’s team, which is comprised of juniors and freshmen, finished the tournament in 12th place. The women were lead by junior Serena Gardiner who posted a 47th place finish.

When asked about the women’s overall sentiment for the season, junior Whitney Rice said, “The girl’s team had a rough season. We had a lot of sickness and injury but we still managed to do pretty well. We are proud of how we did even though it wasn’t exactly where we wanted to be.”

The six women’s teams that qualified to that national tournament included Western State, Adams State, UC-Colorado Springs, Augustana College, North Dakota, and Fort Lewis.

Number Theory

6

of new Democratic Senators

0

of new Republican Senators

29

of new Democratic House Members

0

of new Republican House Members

6

of new Democratic Govenors

0

of new Republican Governors

>24 Hours

Time before Donald Rumsfield Resigned

Potent Quotables



“I want to be invisible. I do guer-rilla warfare. I paint my face and travel at night. You don’t know it’s over until you’re in a body bag.”

- Former Christian Coalition Director Ralph Reed.



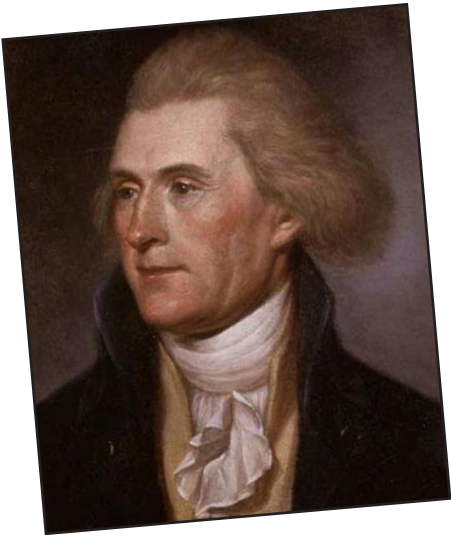
“I don’t understand it. It would be like having a murderer’s pride day.”

-"Pastor Ted" on gay pride day. He has recently been implicated in a meth-purchasing male prostitute soliciting scandal.



“Why is this man [George W. Bush] in the White House? The majority of Americans did not vote for him. I tell you this morning that he’s in the White House because God put him there for a time such as this.”

-Lt. General William G. Boykin, June 2003.



“It does me no injury for my neighbor to say there are twenty gods or no God. It neither picks my pocket nor breaks my leg”

- Thomas Jefferson.

In The Next Issue...
HUBBERT'S PEAK

